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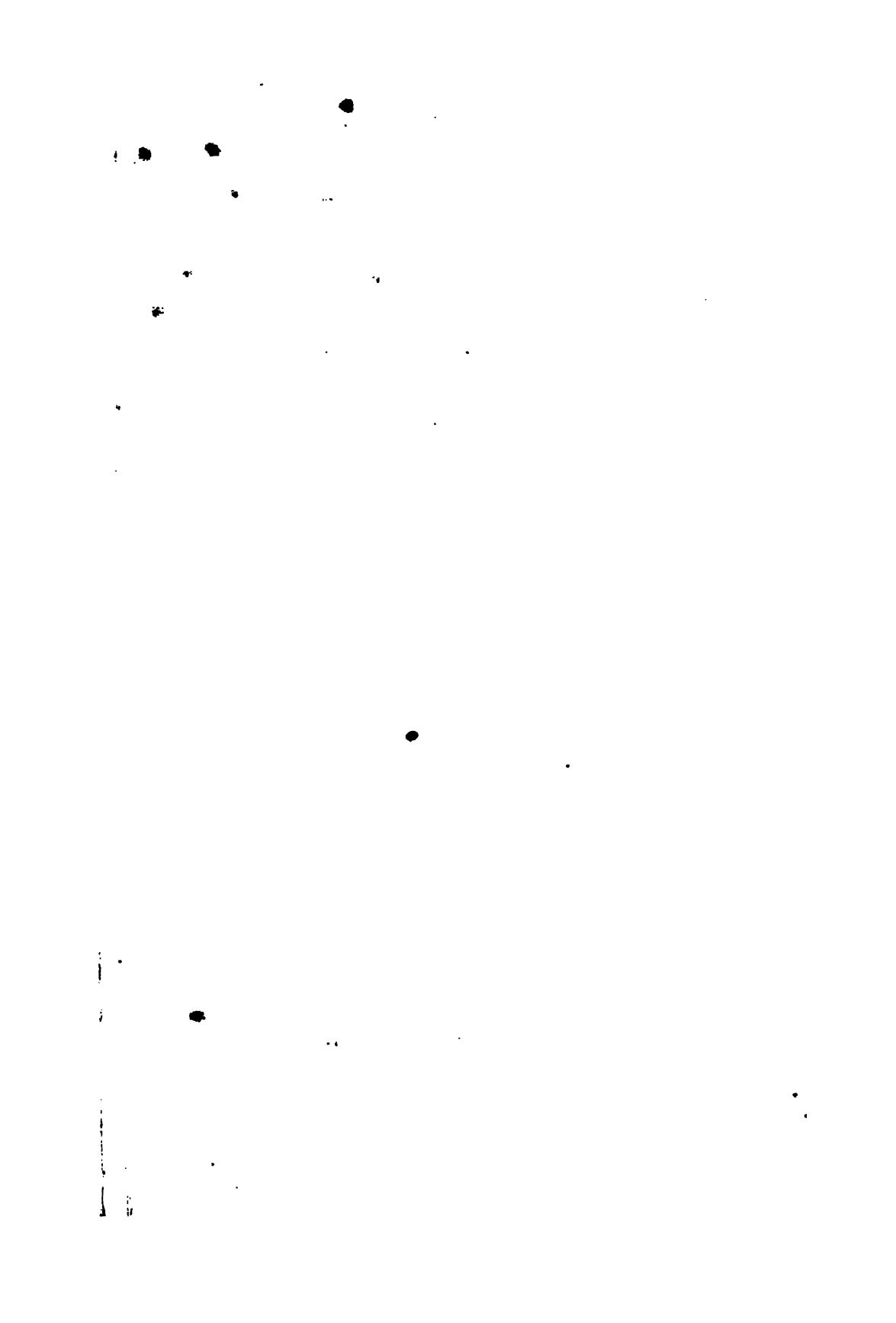


ISLANDS
IN THE
WESTERN PACIFIC OCEAN.



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A DESCRIPTION
OF
ISLANDS
IN THE
WESTERN PACIFIC OCEAN,
NORTH AND SOUTH OF THE EQUATOR:
WITH SAILING DIRECTIONS.
TOGETHER WITH THEIR
PRODUCTIONS; MANNERS AND CUSTOMS OF THE
NATIVES.
AND,
VOCABULARIES OF THEIR VARIOUS
LANGUAGES.

BY
ANDREW CHEYNE.

"That future pilgrims of the wave may be
Secure from doubt, from every danger free."

LONDON:
J. D. POTTER, 31, POULTRY,
SOLE AGENT FOR THE ADMIRALTY CHARTS.

1852.

[Entered at Stationer's Hall.]

203. a. 57.



TO
CAPTAIN A. B. BECHER, R. N., F. R. A. S.
CHIEF ASSISTANT TO THE HYDROGRAPHER OF THE ADMIRALTY,
ETC., ETC., ETC.

SIR,

The high station which you occupy in the naval scientific world, renders it most gratifying to me to dedicate this small volume to you, as a testimony of my sincere regard and esteem.

Its having met with your approval, gives me the greater confidence in laying it before the Public.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your obliged Servant,

ANDREW CHEYNE.

Journal of Management Studies, 36(7), 809–826.

P R E F A C E.

IN appearing before the Public, it may be necessary for the Author to explain how he has been able to acquire the information which he has endeavoured to convey to his maritime countrymen in the following pages, respecting countries of which so little is known.

Having embraced the profession of the sea from his youth, he has had the advantage of visiting nearly all the places mentioned in the following pages; and, during the last ten years, has been in command of vessels engaged in the trade between the different Islands of the Pacific Ocean, during which time he

has endeavoured to make himself familiar not only with the commercial wants of the natives, but with their manners, and customs, &c.; and the Vocabularies given in the Appendix, which may be useful to persons situated as he himself was, have been derived from a long intercourse with the several aboriginal tribes.

July, 1852.

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ISLANDS

IN THE

WESTERN PACIFIC OCEAN.

THE ISLE OF PINES.

THE Peak of the ISLE OF PINES, is situated in Lat. 22° 38' S., Long. 167° 25' E. The island is forty-two miles in circumference: the north-east part is clear of reefs, with the exception of a fringe reef extending about 100 yards from the shore; but from east, round by south and west to north, it is connected to and surrounded by coral reefs, and many small islands, which form several good harbours inside. None of the small islands have any permanent inhabitants; but they are visited occasionally by fishermen. There are also many detached shoals and coral patches within the barrier reefs. Reefs and shoals extend from the Isle of Pines in a westerly direction to the south-east end of

New Caledonia, which is about twenty-eight miles distant, and in sight in clear weather.

Near the shore the land is generally low and rocky, with little soil, but very thickly wooded: about two miles inland the soil improves; and from that to the centre of the island (on the north side) the ground rises with a gentle ascent, with very little timber, and a rich alluvial soil, forming a large clear space of hundreds of acres. From this clear space the land rises gradually towards the peak, (which is situated on the south-east part of the island,) and is thickly wooded to the top. There is good fresh water at the foot of the hill; but it is not convenient for shipping.

Being situated within the southern tropic, the prevailing winds are from south-east, veering round at times to east-north-east and north-east, and generally blowing a fresh gale during the winter months. October and November are the hottest months in the year, the winds being generally light about that time, with much fine weather. From November to April, northerly and westerly winds are often experienced; and sometimes in February and March heavy gales prevail; but they are of short duration. Gales commence at north-east, passing round to north and north-west, from which quarter they blow hardest; and as they moderate haul round to south-west and south. They are always accompanied with much rain and thick weather.

The barometer is seldom affected, except in those severe gales, when it sometimes falls as low as 29.40 inches. The mean temperature during the winter months is about 65°, and in the summer season about 75°.

It is high water on full and change of the moon at 8 hours, greatest rise and fall $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet. The tides are very irregular. At neaps there is only one tide in the 24 hours, and which is generally in the night; the rise and fall at that time not more than two feet. On the first of the flood the tide runs strong in the passages through the reefs, but as soon as they get covered, it flows in all directions, and with less velocity.

The following sailing directions will be found useful to strangers visiting this Island:—

If bound to Victoria Harbour, get the peak to bear south-west, then steer for it, and when about a quarter of a mile from the reef, bear away to the westward, keeping the reef close aboard. As soon as the reef terminates you will see a small island, covered with pine trees, bearing from you about south; that island forms the east side of the channel, and a reef with a dry sand bank on it forms the western boundary. The channel is not above 200 yards wide, and the course in is about south; borrow on the sand bank side, as a coral ledge runs from the Pine Island some distance. After getting inside steer for a small rocky islet, which you will see a little on your port bow; leave it on your port hand, and anchor between it and the main in 4 fathoms coral and sand.

If the wind will not allow a vessel to lie through the small channel, she can run down along the reef to the westward for the large entrance. It is half a mile wide, and the peak bears south-east from it. In working in keep a good look out for a large coral patch which lies a little within the entrance; leave it on the starboard

hand, and work up inside the reef for Victoria Harbour, keeping a good look-out from the mast-head for coral patches, of which there are several. In working a ship amongst coral reefs, a careful and experienced officer should always be at the mast-head, or on the fore-top-sail-yard, as all dangers can be distinctly seen from aloft in a clear day, *when the sun is not ahead.*

If bound to the south-east harbour, steer in for the land with the peak bearing about west, until you get near two sand islets which lie from three to four miles from the shore, to which they are connected by reefs, and are very dangerous in a dark night. When abreast of them, and within a quarter or half a mile, steer to the south-westward for some rocky islets, which will be then seen; they form the south side of the 7 fathom bar channel. After getting about half-way between them and the woody island which forms the north side of the channel, you may steer to the westward, crossing the bar about mid-channel; then steer towards the peak, keeping a good look-out for some black rocks two or three feet above water, which lie fronting the cove. The anchorage is to the westward of them in 8 or 9 fathoms sandy bottom, off the mouth of the cove; or, a vessel may anchor in the cove in 5 fathoms, as it is clear of coral patches. You may pass the rocks on either side, but if to the southward, be sure and give them a good berth.

Many species of fine timber grow on the island; and amongst others some beautiful tall pine trees, similar in appearance to the Norfolk Island pine. The sandalwood tree is found on the level ground one or two miles

inland; and all that I have seen cut, were found in places destitute of soil, growing on coral rock, It is by no means plentiful, as I have frequently searched over half a mile of ground without finding any. Some of the sandal-wood trees are very large, but the average size is from eight to twelve inches in diameter about six feet above the ground. The tree is similar to a large myrtle in appearance, and has a small oval leaf one and a quarter inches in length by three quarters of an inch in breadth. The sandal is the heart of the tree, of a deep yellow colour, and yields an agreeable perfume; it is surrounded by an outer wood, which is white, and must be cleaned off with axes or adzes. After the tree is felled, it is barked, and cut into billets of four feet in length, and taken on board ship to be cleaned; when cleaned, it averages from three to ten inches in diameter, according to the size of the tree; the deeper the colour and the nearer the root, the more valuable is the wood. The branches should be rejected, as they are nearly all sap.

The woods on the low coral lands are very thick, and among them are many large and fine trees of a beautiful red wood, which would make handsome furniture. The cultivated plants and trees are cocoa-nut, sugar-cane, banana, yam, tarro, sweet potatoes, and ti root. The pandanus tree grows nearly all over the island, and is manufactured by the natives into mats, baskets, and canoe-sails.

They pay great attention to the cultivation of yams. They plant them in September and October, and they are ripe in April or May following. The ground is dug

up with wooden spades, and the yams planted in rows three or four feet apart; a reed is put in the ground by each yam for the vine to entwine round, and when it withers the yam is ripe. Tarro is planted in wet soil, and is the most nutritious vegetable we get amongst the islands. There is no particular season for planting the tarro, for when it is ripe, the top is cut off and immediately replanted. The sweet potatoes are planted in the yam grounds, and grow to a large size. They form a very agreeable article of diet; when cooked, the skin is hard, and peels off like the bark of a tree.

The climate cannot be considered insalubrious, although the changes from heat to cold are sometimes very great; as a very hot day will frequently be succeeded by a night cold and chilly, especially in June and July, and exposure at night by sleeping in the open air would be likely to injure a European constitution.

The natives of the Isle of Pines are generally about the middle size, and in complexion between the black and copper-coloured races. Although dark in colour they have nothing of the negro appearance about them. Their faces are well formed, with rather a large mouth, and a fine set of teeth; but there is something restless and savage-looking about the expression of their countenance. Their hair has a frizzly appearance; some of the men wear it long and wrap it up in tappa, while others have it cut short, with a tuft left on one side of the head. The females, both old and young, have their heads shaved, which gives them an ugly appearance. Both sexes have the lobes of their ears perforated, and in the males distended to the size of two inches in diameter.

The males are circumcised, and both sexes go nearly in a state of nudity.

The ornaments worn by the men are beads, shells, and strings of human hair. The chiefs wear white cowrie shells tied round the knees and wrists. The men when dressed for war, are painted black on the face and breast, with the hair done up in many folds of tappa, and decorated with cock's feathers; they also have a long piece of tappa tied round the left wrist, which they use for fending off spears. The women wear no ornaments except beads, are exceedingly filthy in their persons, and have no feeling of shame about them. They are kept in great subjection, and when they prove refractory, their masters will frequently give them a severe thrashing, and infidelity in any of the king's wives is punished with death. They are made to carry burdens, attend to the banana and sugar-cane plantations, weed the yam and tarro grounds, fetch wood and water, make tappa, mats, and baskets, cook, and take care of the children. The men assist to plant yams, build houses and canoes, fish, and go to war; the remainder of their time is spent in sleeping and lounging about their houses. No man goes any distance from his house without having his club and spears in his hand. They are very covetous, and will not hesitate to kill a man (if they can do so with impunity) for the sake of getting possession of his property.

Polygamy is practised at this island, and a promiscuous intercourse of the sexes before marriage is allowed.

With regard to the general character of these people; I may say they are great thieves, extremely ferocious and treacherous, and are so addicted to lying, that it is hardly

possible to get the truth out of them ; and consider stealing and lying as great accomplishments. Although in the lowest state of savage barbarity, they are possessed of great cunning, and are quite as well versed in villany as the worst characters in our own country.

These natives are cannibals, and always eat the bodies of their enemies slain in battle, not merely to gratify their revenge, as I at first supposed, but to satisfy their craving appetite for this sort of food : and the operation of cutting up and cooking their victims, is gone through without the least emotion or feeling of shame. They are extremely cruel, void of affection, and are truly wretches in every sense of the word, degraded beyond the power of conception. All aged and decrepit persons, and men, women, and children who have been long ill of any lingering disease, are either put to death by their relatives, or carried to one of the small islands, and left there to perish without food.

With regard to the population, I found it impossible to obtain correct information ; but from the number of villages and natives which I have seen at different parts of the island, I should take it to be not less than two thousand five hundred souls. All the villages are situated near the coast, and are built among groves of cocoa-nut trees. There are no inhabitants in the interior of the island.

Their implements of warfare are clubs, spears, slings and stones, and, since their intercourse with Europeans, tomahawks, which they prefer to any other weapon. They have four varieties of clubs ; one shaped similar to the beak of a parrot, another with a large head and prongs projecting from it, but the one most commonly used, is

made from a small iron-wood tree, the root forming a large knotty head.

These natives have a singular custom of drinking about half a pint of salt water when they bathe, which they generally do every morning.

Their food consists of excellent yams, tarro, sweet potatoes, bananas, cocoa-nuts, sugar-cane, turtle, and fish. They bake their food in ovens of heated stones; and are somewhat cleanly in their cooking, as they wrap the food in clean banana leaves before putting it in the oven. Their feasts are conducted with much form, and evince some slight degree of politeness. The food, when cooked, is placed before the king, and served out by his directions; generally by the priest, who repeats a prayer over it; as soon as it is divided, the king retires, and the company disperse, each taking his portion of the eatables along with him.

These people are very regular in their habits; they rise at daylight; shortly after sunrise they take their morning meal, and then go to their work, in which they are engaged until about noon, when they return to their houses, and after eating something, sleep, chat, and lounge about during the afternoon. At sunset they take their evening meal, and in fine weather generally dance and sing until a late hour, when they retire to rest.

They appear to have but few diseases. Elephantiasis, hydrocele, and rheumatism, are the most common; ulcers on their legs are frequent; this is one of the most disgusting things about them, as they are left exposed, and they never apply any thing to heal them. I have seen some on their legs three inches in diameter. Wounds

received in battle heal up very soon, which is the consequence of living regular, and on a vegetable diet.

With respect to the religious or rather superstitious observances of these islanders, I may remark, that the distinction between right and wrong is utterly unknown to them. Murder, cannibalism, theft, covetousness, lying, and knavery of every description, are not looked upon by them as sins; neither do they believe that the spirits whom they invoke so consider them. Although they have a firm belief in the immortality of the soul, yet of a future state of rewards and punishments they have no knowledge. The souls of the deceased are supposed to hover in the air over their graves, or the land of their birth, and to have power to visit other islands at discretion. They have another superstition regarding spirits, which is transmigration, and think that they wander about in various shapes, and can make themselves visible or invisible at pleasure. This form of superstition makes them very averse to go out of their villages after dark; when they do travel at night, they always carry a lighted flambeau or fire-stick in their hand.

Priests are generally self chosen. To accomplish this, they will cunningly pretend to have been inspired by the spirit of some deceased chief or noted warrior, and that they have been told by it of future events which are to happen; should any of their predictions relative to war expeditions, or events which interest the people much, happen to correspond, nothing more would be required to constitute the foreteller of such events a duly inspired priest, and entitle him to the power and respect claimed by that class of persons.

The scenery of this island is beautiful, and the clear land near and above the king's village, would make a very fine coffee and sugar plantation; the expense of cultivating it would be trifling, as the ground is clear of timber. The soil is very productive, and cattle would thrive well, as there is plenty of fine grass all over the island.

Vessels visiting the island for the purpose of trade, ought to be well armed, and continually guarded against treachery, as the natives are not by any means to be trusted. The brig *Star*, of Tahiti, was cut off here in 1842, and all hands murdered*. The articles most in

* I was in company with her at the Isle of Pines, collecting sandal-wood, some five or six weeks previous to her capture. I left her and two other Sydney vessels there on the 17th of August, 1842, and proceeded to the Loyalty Islands in search of sandal-wood. It appears she left the Isle of Pines in company with the other vessels for Sydney—being short of provisions—a few days after my departure; and having taken in a supply of provisions and water, she again sailed for the Isle of Pines, and arrived there about the latter end of September. I afterwards learned the following particulars relative to her capture from some Lifu natives who were there at the time.

It appears that on her arrival, she anchored in the south-east harbour, and found the natives to all appearance friendly. On the day following her arrival, the king's son, with about thirty men, went on board in a war-canoe, accompanied by a smaller one laden with sandal-wood for the ostensible purpose of trade. On coming on board, they requested Captain Ebrill to supply them with axes (as had been customary) to take on shore and cut sandal-wood with. So completely was the captain taken off his guard by the apparent friendliness of the natives, and so effectually were his suspicions lulled by the anxiety which they expressed to trade with him, that he supplied each man with a new axe, having obtained which, they immediately went forward and sharpened them on the grindstone. This being an usual practice on board sandal-wood ships, excited no suspicion; and Captain Ebrill, without the slightest fear of danger, immediately commenced purchasing their sandal-wood. The natives having sharpened their axes, mixed with the crew, whilst two of them stationed themselves behind the captain, who was holding out a red shirt to the natives in the canoe, and offering it as payment for a lot of sandal-wood. Suddenly, and without a moment's warning, the signal was given,—and the unfortunate captain was cut down by a blow from behind,—his skull being actually divided by the force of the axe,—and the whole crew were at once slaughtered, with the exception of the mate, and some native missionaries of

request are, muskets, fowling-pieces, gunpowder, lead, tomahawks, axes, adzes, knives, fish-hooks, shirts and trousers, red camlets and serge, hand-saws, gouges, blue glass beads, &c.

No one can visit this island without feeling deep regret that so lovely a spot of God's creation should be inhabited by such a race of depraved wretches.

the Navigator Islands—who were on board under protection of the captain. The natives compelled them to assist in hauling the brig on shore, and dismantling her; this having been effected, they killed the whole of these unfortunate men, and set fire to the vessel. It appears the gunpowder had not been removed, as the vessel blew up during the fire, and killed about thirty natives who were standing on the quarter-deck. The whole of the unfortunate crew were roasted and eaten by these merciless cannibals.

The above cold-blooded massacre affords one proof, out of many that might be adduced, of the folly of placing the slightest confidence in the friendly professions of savages. Captain Ebrill had for many years been engaged in the South Sea Island trade, and bore an excellent character for kindness and humanity to the natives. He was much respected by all who knew him, and left a wife and family at Tahiti to regret his untimely end.

THE LOYALTY ISLANDS.

THE LOYALTY ISLANDS, discovered and named by Captain Cook, have, until lately, been little known. They consist of two large islands and three small ones; the three largest are inhabited. The Island of Lifu is the most northern and the largest of the group. (The other two inhabited islands are named Mari and Tikah.) Its north end is situated in lat. $20^{\circ} 34' S.$, long. $167^{\circ} 29' E.$; and the south end in lat. $21^{\circ} 10' S.$, long. $167^{\circ} 25' E.$; and is about thirty-seven miles in length from north to south, and varying in breadth from ten to twenty miles. It has no harbour, but there is a large bay on the north-west part twelve miles wide at the entrance, and about ten miles in depth, with very indifferent anchorage at the head of it, near the shore, among coral patches, and on a bottom of coral and sand. There are no soundings to be got in the bay, until within five hundred yards of the shore, where there is a coral bank, studded with dangerous coral patches, and from five to twenty fathoms water in the clear places, where a vessel may anchor. A coral reef, awash at low water, lies in the mouth of the bay, about two and a half miles from the south head, which can always be avoided by having a careful officer at the mast-head; otherwise the bay is clear. Another dangerous reef lies off the north end of Lifu; it bears from the north-west point of the island N.N.W. distant eight miles, and the sea always breaks

on it. The other parts of the island present an iron-bound shore, with perpendicular cliffs, and no soundings within a hundred and fifty yards of the breakers. It is of coral formation: elevation about 200 feet, quite level on the top, and thickly wooded.

This island, although thickly clothed with timber, will bear no comparison with the Isle of Pines. With respect to its soil, the only good ground to be found is on small spots of low land near the shore, where the villages are, and on which are several beautiful groves of cocoa-nut trees; also, yam, tarro, banana, and sugar-cane plantations; these cultivated spots produce more than sufficient to supply the wants of the inhabitants. Behind these plantations, in some places high coral cliffs arise so abruptly, that the ascent to the top of them is extremely difficult. On the north-east part of the island, the cliffs rise perpendicularly from the sea, rendering it impossible to land, and the neighbourhood is uninhabited. The greater portion of the *interior* of the island is destitute of soil, and similar to the low coral land at the Isle of Pines.

With regard to the population of Lifu, I had no correct means of ascertaining the number; although I should suppose they amount to about three thousand, or perhaps more. The natives are about the middle size, and exhibit much variety of figure. Their complexion is that of a chocolate colour. Their hair is frizzled; and besides the long bushy beards and whiskers worn by many, they have a great quantity of hair on their bodies. Their eyes are black and penetrating; and although equally savage with the Isle of Pines' natives, their features exhibit rather a milder and more pleasing appearance.

The males are not circumcised, and go entirely naked ; and the only dress worn by the females, is a fringe about three inches wide tied round the body. Polygamy to any extent is practised among them, and promiscuous intercourse before marriage allowed. The women appear to be kept in great subjection, and are made to cultivate and attend to their plantations.

With regard to the general character of these people, little can be said in their favour. They are a treacherous and cruel race, and generally speaking great cowards. They are also much addicted to stealing ; are great liars, and seldom speak the truth even among themselves. No confidence should be put in their professions. The eating of human flesh is practised at this island from habit and taste, and not altogether from revenge ; but from the mere pleasure of eating human flesh as an article of food. Their fondness for it is such, that when a portion has been sent some distance to their friends as a present, the gift is eaten, even if decomposition have begun before it is received.

Their food consists of yams, tarro, cocoa-nuts, bananas, sweet potatoes, sugar-cane, and fish ; which they generally bake in ovens of heated stones ; although sometimes they boil their food in clay pots of their own manufacture.

The men when going to war, wear their hair wrapped up in tappa ; at other times they have no covering over it, but take great pains to have it combed out in a mop-like form. Both sexes wear their hair long. The natural colour of it can hardly be ascertained, as they are in the habit of dying it with slacked lime, which gives it a white, red, or brown appearance, according to the taste

of the individual. The tappa which forms the turban or head-dress of the men, is made from the bark of a tree ; which, after being well soaked in water, is beaten out on a log, and exposed to the sun to dry. They use vines, split, as seizings for their houses ; which are generally of a conical form, and thatched with long grass. Torches are made of dried cocoa-nut leaves tied up in bundles. Calabashes for holding water are made of gourds, neatly crossed or braided with fine coir senit. These natives, as well as those of the Isle of Pines, have a peculiar mode of drinking, which appears awkward to a European ; they throw the head back, with the mouth open, hold the calabash up with both hands, and allow the water to run down the gullet ; this is done to prevent the vessel touching their lips, as it would be considered unpolite for several persons to drink out of the same calabash. They sometimes roll up a long leaf in the form of a tube, insert one end into the calabash, and drink out of the other ; when this plan is adopted, the leaf is always changed when passed to a stranger.

The inhabitants of Lifu are divided into two tribes ; who are independent, and often hostile to each other. They are classed into kings, chiefs, landholders, and slaves. The king of the north part of the island is named Gweeath ; and that of the southern tribe, Bulah, who is quite blind.

The hostile feeling of the two tribes, makes war the chief employment of the men throughout the island. Their wars usually arise from some depredation or theft committed by the one party on the other ; such as stealing a woman belonging to a chief, or to some person of

importance; and generally ends in bloodshed. In the event of which, the king of the aggrieved party sends a formal declaration of war to the aggressor's tribe; and appoints a certain place and day for both armies to meet. At the time appointed, they assemble on a clear spot of ground between the tribes, and form in line abreast of each other, about a hundred yards apart. The battle is commenced by throwing spears from both sides, which they generally catch and throw back again. The two lines then make a charge, meet, exchange blows with their clubs in passing, and again halt at about the same distance, having changed positions. They continue these manoeuvres until one party gets beaten. The victorious army carry off the bodies of their slain enemies; and on their arrival at home, prepare a feast, and have them cooked and eaten. The bones and skull, after having been clean picked, are hung up in the village-council-house, and preserved as trophies. The king eats the eyes, heart, and part of the breast. The women are not allowed to partake of it at the public feast, but I have been told they sometimes get a portion from their husbands in private. Although they often have fair fights, they are not always so honourable; as small parties will waylay others, murder defenceless men, women, or children when fishing, and carry their bodies home to feast on.

THE ISLAND OF MARI was discovered by the sandalwood vessels in 1841, and is the next largest island of the Loyalty group. The north-east end is situated in lat. 21° 21' S., long. 168° 33' E.; and the south-west end in

lat. $21^{\circ} 37'$ S., long. $168^{\circ} 22'$ E. It is about twenty miles in length from north-east to south-west, and ten miles in breadth; of coral formation; elevation about 200 feet, thickly wooded, and quite level. It has no harbour, but anchorage may be found near the shore in some places.

This island is thickly inhabited by a wild and treacherous race, of rather a small stature, whose character, manners, and customs, are similar to those of Lifu. The sandal-wood tree is found on both these islands.

Vessels touching at the Loyalty Islands, ought to be continually guarded against treachery, and not allow *any* of the natives on deck, as they are by no means to be trusted. Both the Lifu and Mari natives have made several unsuccessful attacks on sandal-wood vessels. I have been attacked at Lifu once; and a small vessel from Sydney, named *The Sisters*, was cut off by the natives of Mari in 1844, and all the crew murdered. A boat's crew belonging to the brig *Martha* of Sydney, was also cut off at that place in 1841.

THE BRITANNIA ISLANDS.

THE BRITANNIA ISLANDS, named UEA by the natives, consist of one large island, thirty miles in length in a north-north-east and south-south-west direction, and a number of small ones to the westward of it, connected by coral reefs joining on to Uea, with three good ship passages leading into a large and beautiful bay, having regular soundings all over it. Its formation is similar to some of the Lagoon islands near the equator. The south-eastern part of Uea presents an iron-bound shore, with perpendicular cliffs, and no soundings within a hundred and fifty yards of the breakers; from that, round the north-east and north part of the island, the shore is generally rocky. Boats may land in some places on the north and north-east parts in fine weather. The west side of the island, fronting the anchorage, is low land, thickly studded with cocoa-nut trees; and a white sandy beach runs along its whole margin; giving the shore a beautiful appearance from the lagoon. The *Juno* entrance is one-eighth of a mile wide, and has not less than six fathoms water in any part of it. The *Bull* entrance is rather wider, and has twelve fathoms water in mid-channel; this entrance may easily be known to a stranger, by the island, forming the east side of the passage, having a clump of tall pine trees on it. This is the only island near the passage which is wooded; the others being merely low rocky islets covered with grass and

brushwood. I should decidedly prefer entering by the *Bull* channel.

If bound to the anchorage off King Whiningay's village, a direct course should be steered for it, if the wind will allow, taking care not to come under five fathoms until near the place you intend to anchor; as many sunken rocks exist in-shore of that line of soundings, which cannot be discerned even from the mast-head: when they are visible, they appear of a dark brown colour. The natives have frequently fish-pots set alongside the rocks, with small black buoys on them, about the size of a cocoa-nut; by keeping a good look out for those buoys, the rocks can mostly be avoided. The course from the *Bull* entrance to the anchorage off Whiningay's village at Fizaway, is south-east by south; this course will take a vessel clear of all dangers; and when she shoals her water to four fathoms, she will be abreast of the king's village, about one and a third miles from the shore, where she may anchor. The palisades of the fort will be seen about a hundred yards from the sandy beach, in front of a large grove of cocoa-nut trees; to the left of that will be seen the fortification around the chief Koumah's village, near the beach, and fronting the cocoa-nut trees. The two villages are about a mile apart, with few or no cocoa-nut trees between them.

The distance from Whiningay's village to the south point of Uea, is about five miles; a boat harbour is formed betwixt this point and the next island to it, fronting the small island named Wassou, purchased by me, from King Whiningay, in October, 1846, on which I left a weather boarded house and flag-staff. Wassou

has about two thousand cocoa-nut trees on it, and a small plantation of bananas, yams, and sugar-cane near the house. The next island to the westward of Wassou is of large extent, and inhabited by a chief and his dependants, who, in consequence of being married to the king's daughter, has much power over the natives, and ranks next Koumah. This chief is named Boumulli. All the other islands of this group, have no permanent inhabitants; but are merely visited occasionally by the natives when they go on fishing excursions.

The best entrance into the lagoon, is the *Naiad* channel on the west part of the group. This passage is four miles wide, and clear of all hidden dangers. The land of Uea cannot be seen from the deck until a vessel gets some distance to the eastward of the entrance. I did not try for soundings when beating in this channel in the brig *Naiad*; but I rather think no soundings (at a moderate depth) are to be got in the western part of the lagoon until the land of Uea is visible from the deck. A vessel may anchor in any part of the lagoon within sight of the land, as the soundings are very regular, on a bottom of fine white sand. With westerly winds a short sea sets into the lagoon, which renders it difficult to communicate with the shore: but those winds are of short duration, and only happen from October till April. A vessel anchoring here in these months, should ride with a long-scope of cable, as the holding ground is not very good.

The Island of Uea is of coral formation, elevated in the south-east part about 170 feet, and quite level on the top; the other parts of the island are not quite so high; and the whole of it is thickly wooded. From the east,

side to the centre of the island the ground is rocky and destitute of soil ; but on the west side, around, and a little inland from the villages, the soil is good, and capable of producing every variety of tropical fruits and vegetables, and is well cultivated. These plantations produce beautiful tarro, sweet potatoes, bananas, and sugar-cane ; but yams do not appear to thrive well. Fresh water can be procured in several places near the beach, by digging wells in the sand ; but there are neither running streams nor springs near the shore. The sandal-wood tree grows on this island.

The prevailing winds are from south-east ; but from October until April, westerly winds are frequently experienced, and gales happen some years in these months ; they generally commence at north-east, haul round to north and north-west, from whence they blow hardest, then round to south-west, and moderate. Very little rain falls during the year.

Whiningay's village is situated in lat. $20^{\circ} 34' S.$, long. $166^{\circ} 34' E.$ It is high water on full and change of the moon at six hours, greatest rise and fall of the tide, five and a half feet. At neaps, there is only one tide in the twenty-four hours, and this is generally in the night ; the water does not rise then above two feet.

The climate of these islands is salubrious, and well adapted to a European constitution. The warmest months are in the summer season, from October till March ; during the other months the weather is cool and agreeable. Earthquakes are frequently experienced during the summer months, and some of them are sufficiently severe to overthrow a stone house ; but the shock seldom lasts

more than two minutes, and the natives exhibit no fear on account of them.

Uea is divided into two tribes,—the southern tribe is governed by a king, named Whiningay, who is possessed of much power. The northern tribe has no king, but is governed by a council of chiefs. The two tribes are almost constantly at war, and are extremely jealous of each other.

Their implements of warfare consist of clubs, spears, tomahawks, slings, and stones; the stones are of an oval shape, and when at war, are carried in a bag tied round the waist. The spear is thrown by the *sip*. Tomahawks are used as battle-axes, and preferred to any other weapon. Their wars are sometimes carried on in open fight, but stratagem is more generally resorted to. They frequently prowl about in small parties near the enemy's tribe, and lie in ambush for stragglers, whom they massacre without regard to age or sex. When one party is desirous of peace, some neutral person is sent to the other tribe with the king's tappa, which, if accepted, ends the war for a time. But upon such frivolous pretences are these treaties sometimes broken, that the chiefs seldom visit each other after peace is declared.

These people appear to be tolerably free from diseases; and those which came under my personal observation, were colds, elephantiasis, hydrocele, and rheumatism; the latter disease appears to be the most prevalent, and attacks them in the bones of the legs, which they relieve by making an incision in to the bone with a shell over the part affected.

The Uea natives are generally above the middle size,

and display much variety of figure. Their complexion lies between that of the black and copper-coloured races, although instances of both extremes are met with, which would lead one to suppose that some of them are descended from two different stocks. They are in general much fairer than the Isle of Pines' natives, and less savage in appearance; but, like all savages, are treacherous and cruel, and are much addicted to thieving, coveting every thing they see. Both sexes have the lobe of the ear bored, which operation is performed at the age of puberty: the men distend the holes to a large size, by inserting rolls of tappa, pieces of wood, and bunches of leaves, which completely alters the original shape of the ear, and gives it a most unnatural appearance. Their hair is frizzled, and they take great pains in dressing it, with a comb made of two long and slender pins or prickers; when dressed, it has a large bushy appearance, similar to a mop. Many of the boys and girls whiten their hair with lime, which, when they grow up, gives it a brown appearance, similar to the colour of their skin. The wooden hair-pricker or pin is worn as an indication of rank. The king wears it in the front of his hair; the chiefs a little on one side, while the lower classes have it tied round the neck, and hanging down the back. These natives are seldom seen painted unless when going to war, at which time they use a sort of lamp black, or soot, to blacken the face and breast. They pay great respect to their king and chiefs, and never attempt to pass them without stooping, and lowering their clubs. The men go entirely naked, and are not circumcised. The women, when married, wear a fringe around the body about six

inches in depth, which has a more decent appearance than that worn by the females of the other islands.

The daughters of chiefs are usually betrothed to chief's sons, by the parents of both parties, several years before they are marriageable. At this island strict chastity is observed among both sexes before marriage, and promiscuous intercourse expressly forbidden. It is difficult to account for this difference in the morals of the inhabitants of two islands so near to each other as this and Lifu. There, neither men nor women are under any restraint in this respect before marriage.

Polygamy is practised on a small scale. The king has four wives. Koumah and Boumulli two each; the other chiefs and landholders have seldom more than one apiece.

Although otherwise cruel, these people are kind and affectionate to their children, and seldom punish them even for the most insolent or passionate behaviour.

The ornaments worn by these natives are, beads made of jade-stone, strung on a thick string, made from the down of the vampire bat, or flying fox; these strings are also worn by the chiefs around the knees and waist. shell armlets are worn by some of the chiefs and their children. The shells of which the armlets are formed, are held in much estimation, and are only to be found in New Caledonia. Since their intercourse with Europeans, glass beads form their chief ornaments. The large blue beads are the most highly esteemed.

Their houses are of various forms and sizes. Some are in the shape of a bee-hive, and others form an oblong square. The council-house at Fizaway is ninety feet in

length by twenty in breadth. The roof has a double pitch, falling on each side of the ridge to eaves about four feet from the ground, well thatched with long grass, and perfectly tight. The greater part of the side fronting the sea is open; but the whole of the back and ends are closed in. All strangers and visitors sleep in this house.

Their canoes, although of a similar construction to those of the Isle of Pines, are not near so well put together. They are built double; the smaller serving as an outrigger to the larger, and are connected by beams, on which a platform of boards is laid. They have two triangular sails, manufactured of pandanus leaves. They are clumsy in appearance, and poor sea boats. Notwithstanding that, the natives perform voyages to New Caledonia and Lifu in them. They steer with a very large paddle; and when the sails are in, have a peculiar method of propelling them to windward by means of sculls, about six feet in length by six inches in breadth, which they shove down through round holes in the platform, and by working it from side to side, propel the canoe, similar to sculling a boat. These war-canoes can carry from thirty-five to fifty men each.

These natives are very regular in their habits. They rise with the sun; bathe, and take their morning meal; then go to their different occupations, at which they are engaged until about noon, when they return to their houses; they then take another slight meal, and spend the afternoon in visiting, chatting, and lounging about. At sunset they have their principal meal served, and when not dancing, retire to rest about nine o'clock.

Their food consists of yams, sweet potatoes, tarro,

cocoa-nuts, bananas, sugar-cane, ti root, and fish, which they prepare and cook in a variety of ways. They consider a large wood maggot, which is found on the trees, to be the most delicious food they have. I have frequently seen them pick them up, and eat them alive.

These people are cannibals, and invariably eat the bodies of their enemies slain in battle with as much relish and satisfaction as any of their neighbours. When at war, women are often cut off (by small parties of the enemy) when fishing on the reefs, and their bodies carried home to administer to their cannibal appetites.

In regard to the population of Uea, I found it difficult to obtain correct information, but I should estimate it to be about four thousand souls.

BEAUPRE'S ISLANDS

Are correctly placed in the charts. The north-east island is situated in lat. $20^{\circ} 22' S.$, long. $166^{\circ} 14' E.$ They consist of three small low islands, of coral formation, covered with cocoa-nut trees, and surrounded by a coral reef, which extends from the islands some distance to the north-west and north. The largest island is inhabited by some Uea natives.

ISLANDS AND REEFS.

WALPOLE'S ISLAND is only about a mile in extent, elevated about 200 feet, and level on the top, with high perpendicular cliffs on the west side. It is covered with brushwood; and in fine weather a landing might be effected on some part of the east side. I found it correctly placed in the charts, its position being in lat. $22^{\circ} 40' S.$, long. $169^{\circ} 15' E.$

NEW CALEDONIA and BOND'S REEFS are very correctly placed in the charts.

In October, 1842, on my passage from the Britannia Islands to Balade harbour, New Caledonia, I discovered a dangerous coral reef, about a mile or more in extent, in lat. $19^{\circ} 55' S.$, long. $165^{\circ} 25' E.$ This danger is not laid down in any charts that I have seen.

Captain Thomas Beckford Simpson, of Sydney, discovered a dangerous coral reef, in 1846, off the east part of New Caledonia. He examined it, and found it to be two or three miles in length. The position he assigns to it is, lat. $21^{\circ} 30' S.$, long. $166^{\circ} 50' E.$

The French corvette *La Brillante*, on the 28th of August, 1847, discovered a dangerous coral reef, forty yards in extent, in lat. $23^{\circ} 13' 52'' S.$, long. $167^{\circ} 35' 18'' E.$ of Paris, or $169^{\circ} 55' E.$ of Greenwich.

I passed near St Matthew's Rock in December 1841, on my passage from Sydney to Manilla in the *Diana*,

and made it in lat. $22^{\circ} 25'$ S. long. $171^{\circ} 20'$ E. by chronometers from Sydney. The position assigned it in Lieut. Raper's Epitome is lat. $22^{\circ} 27'$ S. long. $171^{\circ} 13'$ E.

A dangerous reef lies in each of the following positions:—

Latitude. ° ' S.	Longitude. ° ' E.	Latitude. ° ' S.	Longitude. ° ' E.
5 0	159 20	20 5	160 30
4 16	149 8	22 40	156 10
5 24	147 6	15 44	176 27
16 52	149 50	18 11	175 15
21 8	161 35	21 40	174 43
20 55	160 28	23 52	165 10

A dangerous reef lies forty miles east of Rotumah.

A group of low coral islands, covered with cocoa-nut trees, and inhabited, has been discovered in lat. $4^{\circ} 52'$ S. long. $160^{\circ} 12'$ E.

A dangerous reef lies between the island of Malanta and Guadalcanar, Solomon's Archipelago, supposed to be in lat. 9° S. I have been told by masters of whalers that it lies nearly in the middle of Indispensible Strait. I believe the brig *Melrose* was wrecked on it.

I discovered a shoal off the Eddystone Island, New Georgia, in February, 1844. It bears from the Eddystone south-south-west, distant three miles, and has not less than five fathoms water on the shoalest part.

In January, 1844, I came through Bougainville Strait from the northward in the night; and at daylight, when about midway between Cape Alexander and Choiseul Bay, off shore five miles, saw rocks under the bottom, and had a cast of the lead in nine fathoms; we

then hauled off to the westward, and immediately got out of soundings. The weather being squally, with a threatening appearance, I did not think it prudent to stand in again; but the idea I formed at the time was, that the whole line of coast from Cape Alexander to the north side of Choiseul Bay was fronted with dangerous shoals and coral patches, and that a ship bound through Bougainville Strait should not approach nearer to that coast than five miles until better examined. A master of a whaler told me some years ago, that he once came through Bougainville Strait in the night, and that in one place he saw the bottom, and had a cast of the lead in seven fathoms.

The following remarks on Bougainville Strait are by Capt. Hunter of the *Marshall Bennett* whaler. See "Nautical Magazine" for 1840, p. 467.

"As ships intending to pass through this strait, and depending upon the accuracy of their charts, may consider it has deep water, and is clear of danger, your giving room for the following extract from the *Marshall Bennett's* journal may induce more caution; and a better look out than might otherwise be deemed necessary:— July 29th, 1836, noon. A fresh breeze from the south-east, steering to the northward through Bougainville strait. At 1 P.M. very strong rippings, extending across the strait or as far as the eye could reach, although we had not nearly approached the narrowest part, it being here about thirty miles wide. The ship crossed over several of these; but about 2 P.M., while watching the extraordinary appearance of one, saw the coral bottom plainly under the ship. The masthead men had not

observed the discoloured water. Hauled to the wind immediately towards the New Georgia Shore, the rippings there appearing less strong. This shoal patch could not have had more than seven or eight fathoms on it. We quickly passed off this, but found now that we had got amongst innumerable patches of the same kind. Got a range of the chain; being able, however, to pilot the ship through, continued to proceed to the northward, and about 3 P.M., got clear of them, but not without having got soundings of ten and thirteen fathoms on one, which we were unavoidably obliged to pass over; this last appearing to be a barrier shoal and extending from the New Georgia shore as far as could be seen from our mast-head towards the Bougainville side, and I think quite across. The rippings were occasioned by a strong current running in from the northward and meeting these obstructions. They are detached patches of coral rising up in clear blue water apparently of unfathomable depth, and although I am not certain that any of them would pick a ship up, some looked so shoal that no one would willingly try without having sounded. In latitude these shoals extend from about 6° 56' S., to 6° 46' S., and there did not appear to be any passage through the straits, by which a ship could entirely avoid them."

The whole of Solomon's Archipelago requires to be surveyed, as the charts in use at present are very erroneous. Merchant ships passing through this Archipelago should hold no intercourse with the natives, as they are not to be trusted.

THE NEW HEBRIDES.

THE ISLAND OF ANATAM, in lat. $20^{\circ} 11' S.$, long. $169^{\circ} 42' E.$, is about thirty miles in circumference. It is very high land, and may be seen forty-five miles in clear weather. It has a harbour on the south-west side formed by a sand islet and reefs, which shelter it from south-east winds; but as it is open to the wind from north-west to west-south-west, it is by no means a safe harbour, and should only be resorted to from April to October, when the south-east trade wind prevails. During the summer months, westerly gales are frequently experienced; and several sandal-wood vessels have been wrecked in this harbour during these months.

Captain James Paddon formed an establishment at this island in 1843, and has remained there since. He has several houses built on the sand islet where he resides; and three or four small vessels, engaged in collecting sandal-wood from the other islands, which he sends to the China market by Sydney vessels.

Ships calling here can obtain no refreshments from the natives; as the island hardly produces food enough to supply the wants of the inhabitants. Good fresh water can be procured within a short distance of the anchorage; and firewood around the head of the bay, but not in any quantity.

Severe shocks of earthquakes are often felt in the summer season at this island. I experienced one in

November, 1845, which lasted about three minutes, and shook my vessel so severely as to open several of her seams. It was attended with a rumbling noise, similar to a chain cable running out; or to a vessel grating over sunken rocks.

The natives are similar in complexion and stature to the inhabitants of Tanna; and their manners and customs much the same. The immolation of widows is practised here; and the males are circumcised. I may also mention a singular and most destructive custom practised at this island, which I have never met with at any other. On the death of a chief, his whole property—including houses, canoes, and cocoa-nut trees—is burnt.

THE ISLAND OF TANNA.

THE ISLAND OF TANNA is about twenty-five miles in length in a north-west and south-east direction, and about ten miles in breadth. Its south end is mountainous, and visible, in clear weather, forty-five miles from a ship's deck. The other parts are moderately elevated, and thickly wooded throughout. The north point is situated in lat. $19^{\circ} 18' S.$, long. $169^{\circ} 15' E.$; and Port Resolution, its easternmost part, in lat. $19^{\circ} 31' 30' S.$, long. $169^{\circ} 29' 30' E.$ The entrance of Port Resolution bears east from the volcano; therefore a ship bound in may always find the harbour by steering for the volcano, after getting it to bear west. The island may be approached to within a mile all round, as no hidden dangers exist.

Tanna is well inhabited by an able-bodied race, similar in complexion to the natives of Lifu. They are divided into several tribes, who are almost constantly at war. Each tribe is governed by a king; but the natives pay little respect to him, and his power appears very limited. They are in general a wild and ferocious set, exceedingly treacherous, and great thieves; and, like their neighbours, are all cannibals. It would not be safe for Europeans to land on any part of the island except in the harbour of Port Resolution, where they have become a little civilized through their intercourse with Europeans; and even there it would not be prudent to walk any distance inland, unless accompanied by a chief. I have landed there often, and walked up alone to the village; but as they have killed some Europeans lately, I question whether it would be safe to do so now. Whalers' boats have often been attacked on the west side of the island, when trading for yams, and doubtless many natives have been shot by them in self-defence; so that strangers should be particularly on their guard when holding communication with the shore.

The London Missionary Society placed two of their clergymen, Messrs Turner and Nesbit, on Tanna, eight or nine years ago, to try and Christianize the natives. They lived at Port Resolution, with their families and some Samoan native teachers, for nearly two years, but they made no converts. Dysentery unfortunately broke out among the natives; which their priests attributed to the agency of the missionaries; and the chiefs, believing that they were possessed of supernatural powers, formed a conspiracy to murder them; which they certainly

would have done, had not a vessel entered the harbour the very morning they intended carrying their design into execution. She proved to be a whaler, and immediately rescued them ; but the natives had plundered them of almost every thing before her arrival. The year following they again landed native teachers ; and when I first visited Port Resolution, in August, 1845, they were living in the mission-house, and made no complaint of bad treatment from the natives ; but, on my return in September, 1846, I found the mission-house burnt ; and learned, on inquiring for the native teachers, that one of them had been murdered by the Port Resolution natives, and that the others had escaped in a whaler, and were living on Anatam.

Port Resolution is a pretty spot. The land around the village is well cultivated, and the vegetation most luxuriant. As the shores of this harbour may probably form the site of a small township at no very distant period ; I think it proper to mention, that I purchased a piece of ground from the chiefs, in September, 1846, on the east side of the harbour, with water frontage, contiguous to the London Missionary Society's allotment, on the north side.

The island of Tanna is very fertile, and produces an abundance of the finest yams I have met with among the islands. The proper season for getting a supply, is June, July, and August. I procured, in four days, forty-four fine large pigs, and fully four tons of yams, with any quantity of sugar-cane, in August, 1845, from the natives around the harbour, at a very moderate price. Plenty of bananas, breadfruit, cocoa-nuts, and figs, can be procured at an equally low rate ; and good fresh water, convenient

for shipping, can be got at the head of the harbour : but firewood is scarce ; on account of the wood around the harbour being chiefly fruit trees.

Circumcision is practised at this island ; and polygamy and promiscuous intercourse of the sexes before marriage is allowed. The males and unmarried females go nearly in a state of nudity ; but the married women wear a grass petticoat, which reaches to the knee. The men have a most singular mode of dressing their hair. They wear it long, and divide it into portions about the thickness of packthread, which they serve round with narrow strips of grass, or young cocoa-nut leaves ; similar to the service on a rope. Both sexes are exceedingly filthy in their persons ; and they have an abominable habit of smearing their faces and hair with red pigment, mixed with cocoa-nut oil, which adds much to their savage appearance.

Their houses are very low, and badly constructed ; being similar to the roof of a house placed on the ground, without sides. The door or entrance is at one end, and they are thatched with cocoa-nut leaves.

Their canoes are small, and are made of a tree hollowed out ; to which they have an outrigger attached. The largest will not carry more than six or eight men.

IMMER ISLAND is situated in lat. $19^{\circ} 21' S.$, long. $169^{\circ} 31' E.$ It is low, and well inhabited.

The ISLAND OF ERRONAN, or FOOTOONA, is high, and may be seen thirty miles from a ship's deck in clear weather. It is about fifteen miles in circumference, and is well inhabited by a wild race similar to the inhabitants of Tanna. The centre is situated in lat. $19^{\circ} 31' S.$, long. $170^{\circ} 8' E.$

ERROMANGA ISLAND.

ERROMANGA is high and rocky, and presents an iron-bound shore nearly all round, with deep water close to the breakers, and no hidden dangers. Traitor's Head is in lat. $18^{\circ} 46'$ S., long. $169^{\circ} 15'$ E.; Dillon's Bay, lat. $18^{\circ} 45'$ S., long. $168^{\circ} 55'$ E. It has no harbours, but anchorage may be found in Cook's Bay on the east side, and Dillon's Bay on the west. In the latter the bank is steep to; the soundings extend a very short distance from the shore, and the best anchorage is in twelve fathoms, off the mouth of the river. No stranger should anchor here unless in a case of necessity, as the natives are hostile and treacherous: and should the wind set in from the westward—which it is liable to do from November to April—a large vessel would have little chance of getting underweigh, or beating out. The sandal-wood vessels are always ready for slipping in case of a westerly wind setting in. This island produces nothing beyond the immediate wants of the inhabitants, and consequently holds out no inducement for vessels to visit it, except for sandal-wood*. It is inhabited by a wretched set, who are darker in complexion than those of Tanna, and have woolly hair, like negroes. They are notorious for their cannibal propensities; and we consider them the most barbarous race in the New Hebrides; so much so, that no Europeans have landed from any of the sandal-wood vessels that have touched at this island. I anchored in Dillon's Bay, in August, 1845, and procured twenty tons of sandal-wood in seventeen days. The natives swam off with it, through the surf, to our boats.

* The Erromanga name for sandal-wood is "waluh."

SANDWICH ISLAND.

SANDWICH ISLAND is of large extent, moderately elevated, and presents a beautiful appearance. It is the finest island of the New Hebrides, and the best adapted for colonization. It produces many varieties of fine timber, and amongst others the sandal-wood tree*. The soil is good, and the vegetation luxuriant; yams and sweet potatoes of a superior quality, are extensively cultivated by the natives. It also produces breadfruit, cocoa-nuts, bananas, and sugar-cane in abundance.

The south-east point is situated in lat. $17^{\circ} 52'$ S., long. $168^{\circ} 35'$ E.; and the south-west point in lat. $17^{\circ} 46'$ S., long. $168^{\circ} 9'$ E. It is possessed of several good harbours; the one on the west side is spacious, easy of ingress, and sheltered from all winds. It is formed by two large islands, with a narrow passage between them, having five fathoms water in mid-channel. The southern entrance to this harbour is a mile wide, clear of hidden dangers, and may easily be known by a remarkable island which lies off the entrance to the south-west. This island has the appearance of a broad-brimmed hat, and may be passed on either side. The anchorage is at the north-east part of the harbour, where soundings will be found; and a ship of any size may anchor in fifteen fathoms, a quarter of a mile from the shore, completely land-locked, and secure from all winds. Excellent fresh water, and abundance of firewood can be easily obtained near the anchor-

* The native name for sandal-wood at this island is "magoose."

age. Another good harbour is formed by islands on the south-south-west part of the island. The London Missionary Society's ship, *John Williams*, visited this harbour in April, 1845, and left some Samoan native teachers there. The whale ship, *Cape Packet*, of Sydney, was cut off by the natives of this south harbour some years ago, and nearly all the crew murdered. The only survivors were one or two New Zealanders, and some Tongataboo men, who are still living amongst the natives. It is supposed by some, that they assisted the natives to capture the ship. Strangers, therefore, visiting this island, cannot be too much on their guard, as the natives are not to be trusted, no matter how friendly they may appear. They are all cannibals, and so extremely ignorant as to believe that white men inhabit the sun; they think that our ships fly off into the air, when they disappear beyond the visible horizon. This of itself should be sufficient to show Europeans the folly of putting confidence in their professions, until they become more enlightened.

There is a large bay on the north part of the island, with good anchorage at the head of it, in fifteen fathoms, coral and sand. It may easily be known by a large high island which lies fronting it. The only danger to be avoided going in, is a small coral reef near the anchorage on the west side, and which can always be seen from the mast-head. I first visited this island in May, 1845; and again in September and November, 1846, and procured during my last two visits, about forty tons of good sandalwood in three weeks. These natives, I have been told, have made several unsuccessful attempts to cut off sandalwood vessels.

The following remarks on Banks group by Captain Hunter, are extracted from the "Nautical Magazine," for 1840, page 468 :—"December 20th, 1835, being off the south coast of New Georgia, and wishing to make a passage to New Zealand, the westerly monsoon having commenced here, steered to the eastward, to pass between Banks islands and Star island, near the northern part of the New Hebrides, as there appeared to be a space of forty-five miles between these islands in the charts, and by this route being enabled to avoid New Caledonia and the contiguous dangers. On the 25th steering in the parallel of 14° S., at daylight saw the Torres islands to the northward, and other islands to the eastward: steered to the eastward towards the channel formed between the two southern islands in sight, which appeared about sixteen miles wide, the southern one of these not laid down in any of Norie's charts, or any other which I can find, and supposing the northern one to be one of Banks group, it extends considerably further to the southward, than the situation assigned to these islands. I made the south end of it in $13^{\circ} 58'$ S., and $167^{\circ} 33'$ E. by chronometer reckoned back from Erromanga: the other island which yet has no name, (north end,) in $14^{\circ} 15'$ S., $167^{\circ} 32'$ E. At sundown we were in the passage, with breakers plainly visible on both sides from the masthead, it being about sixteen miles across, and having a small, and very high island in sight to the S.E., a long way off, which I take to be Star island. Stood to the eastward all night, and at daylight saw a high, round, and small island, bearing S.W. twenty miles, the same which we saw the previous night: this from our view,

I should place in $14^{\circ} 25' S.$, $163^{\circ} 10' E.$ The island here which has not been seen, or omitted to be inserted, lies due south of Banks islands, distant as I have stated about fourteen or sixteen miles, is of good height and even appearance, sloping at the sides, and as large as any of the above-named islands, that is apparently about thirty or thirty-five miles in circumference, with inhabitants, several fires being seen. Star island which is placed in some charts on this meridian, lies further west, is very high, and not above five or six miles round. The weather was fine, and sights clear. I may add that the epitomes and charts differ in the situations of these islands, a thing of very frequent occurrence, as regards the Pacific."

NEW CALEDONIA.

I SHALL finish my description of the sandal-wood islands, with a few remarks on New Caledonia.

THE ISLAND OF NEW CALEDONIA is two hundred miles in length, in a north-west and south-east direction, and its mean breadth thirty miles; thus forming an area of six thousand square miles. It is more or less mountainous throughout, and well wooded from the shore to its summits. It produces many varieties of fine timber, fit for ship building, and other purposes; and the sandal-wood tree is found on various parts of the coast. The point marked Cape Prince of Wales in the charts, is the southern extremity of an island of considerable size which lies off its south end. It is surrounded by barrier reefs, with many small islands, within, and near their margins.

The reefs extend from Cape Prince of Wales in a southerly direction fully thirty-five miles. The barrier reef, in some places, extends a considerable distance from the south-west side of the island; and has several good ship passages leading through it to harbours inside.

Dangerous reefs extend fully ninety-five miles in a north-west direction from the north-west end of New Caledonia; and several islands of considerable size lie within the reefs in the same direction.

Bond's reefs are fifty miles in length in a north-north-west and south-south-east direction, and about twenty

miles in breadth, with an opening on the north-west part eight miles wide. I examined these reefs in March, 1845, and observed several low sand islets on the margin of the reefs at different parts; but they are destitute of timber, and are merely covered with brushwood, or long grass. I was searching for biche de mer at the time, and intended to have anchored there, had the islets produced firewood.

Port St Vincent is an excellent harbour, easy of ingress, and completely sheltered from all winds, with very moderate depths of water throughout. The directions for Port St Vincent in Horsburgh's Directory will be found very correct. I visited this harbour in March, 1845, and remained a few days; but the natives appeared so hostile, that I did not think it prudent to land during my stay.

I visited Balade Harbour, near the north end of New Caledonia, in the Brigantine *Bull*, in 1842, with the intention of forming a biche de mer establishment there, but the natives attacked us the morning after our arrival, and we were glad to get away again. The following account of the attack is copied from my Journal; and I insert it, as it may be of use to strangers visiting this island:—

October 16th, 1842, A.M. fresh north-west winds and fine weather. At eight stood in for the reefs, and lay by till noon for the meridian altitude. At 0 30 P.M. entered the reefs in lat. 20° 11' S., through a good clear passage three quarters of a mile wide, and when inside steered south and south-east for Balade Harbour. We passed through amongst many coral patches, and at three

P.M. came to an anchor off a village named Paceaipo, in thirteen fathoms. We had run past Balade Harbour, as it did not appear safe to approach until examined with the boat. Shortly after we anchored, several double canoes came off; but the natives appeared very shy; and were apparently afraid to come alongside. I wanted if possible to gain their confidence by kindness, and to convince them that we had come as friends, and not for the purpose of fighting. After a display of white cloth and pocket-handkerchiefs on our side, and waving of tappa on theirs, they were at last induced to come alongside; and by dint of iron-hoop presents, we soon got a number of them prevailed on to come on board, and amongst whom were two or three chiefs. Their excitement appeared to be so great on coming on deck, and viewing the numerous novel things around them, that they could not continue still for a moment. After getting a little over their excitement, they inquired for the Alik; and on my being pointed out to the chiefs as that person, they immediately presented me with their tappas, as a token of friendship; which I accepted; and in return, presented them with some iron-hoop, beads, and white cloth. Seeing no war-like preparations going on, nor any of our people armed, they soon gained confidence, and commenced coming on board in great numbers; each chief presenting me with his tappa as above, and receiving a present in return.

About 5 P.M. we must have had not less than two hundred natives on deck. The principal chief appeared to be labouring under great excitement, and having ordered all the natives (who were making a prodigious clamour) to be silent, and sit down, jumped up and made a long

speech to them, uttered with a powerful voice, and excessive volubility, during which time his whole frame appeared to be agitated. When this speech was ended, I showed them a sample of biche de mer, and tried to make them understand that I wanted them to build me a large curing-house on shore, and to collect it for me, showing them at the same time a sample of our goods; which they eagerly inspected, but shook their heads when they looked at the biche de mer, and seemed determined not to understand me. They appeared very anxious to get the vessel removed to Balade Harbour, which I intended to do, after examining it. The houses of Balade were about two miles north-west of where we were at anchor. I again tried to call their attention to the biche de mer, but to no purpose. They had got a sight of our trade, and were busy inspecting the vessel, and counting our men. After ascertaining our complement, number of great guns, &c., the chiefs again ordered the natives to sit down, and made some more speeches to them, which they listened to with great attention. The head chief made me sit down near him on the quarter-deck, and kindly patting me on the shoulder, pointed me out to his brother savages. He pointed occasionally to the crew during his speech, but they did not appear to interest him near so much as myself. It was now getting dark, and I became anxious that they should leave the ship, as it was evident that they were planning to take her. I therefore tried to make them understand that I wished them to go on shore, and come on board again in the morning. They explained by signs that they perfectly understood me, but that they wished to sleep on board. This of course could not be allowed;

but as my only chance of procuring a cargo was by keeping on friendly terms with them, I was determined not to be the first aggressor. I therefore gave the chiefs some more presents; and after a deal of coaxing they all left the vessel, with the exception of thirteen, who seemed determined to sleep on board. I allowed them to remain till about nine o'clock, when I again tried to persuade them to leave; but they would not go, and commenced flourishing their clubs over our heads in a threatening manner: on some muskets being brought up, they jumped overboard and swam to the shore. About midnight we observed a number of large fires on shore, which were answered along the coast from hill to hill.

October 17th.—Daylight calm and clear; got the whale-boat out in order to sound the channel leading to Balade Harbour, with a view to moving the schooner there; but before the boat could be got ready, I observed hundreds of natives swimming off to us—from the fringe reef abreast of the vessel, distant about 400 yards—and four war-canoes, carrying about 160 men, approaching the vessel. Within a few minutes they were alongside, and several natives came on board unarmed. They brought nothing for barter; and at that time appeared peaceable, and anxious to get the vessel removed to Balade Harbour. The chiefs formed a circle round me on the quarter-deck, and endeavoured to withdraw my attention from their countrymen, who were swimming off and boarding the vessel in every direction. At half past six o'clock there could not have been less than between two and three hundred men on deck. At this time fifteen large war-canoes hove in sight, round a point of land to

the south-east, full of men, and coming towards us under sail. There were also some thousands of natives on the fringe reef abreast of the schooner all armed. On looking over the quarter, I saw a number of men in the water, each having a club and a bundle of spears, which they were passing up to the natives on deck. Four war-canoes were also stationed round the ship, at twenty yards' distance; one at each gangway, one ahead, and one astern, full of armed men. It was now evident that they had come off to capture the vessel, and were only waiting for the fifteen war-canoes to come up. In order to sound their intentions, I offered to purchase some of their clubs and spears; but they refused to sell them, which confirmed me in my suspicions. About a quarter to seven the decks were crowded with armed men, who were passing every thing overboard which they could find; such as,—boat's oars, handspikes, windlass-levers, and part of a new sail which the men had been at work upon. At this time they had got some native fifes and drums on the poop, and were singing and dancing their war-dance.

At seven o'clock the canoes lowered their sails, and commenced paddling up in three divisions. At that time I was on the quarter-deck, surrounded by the chiefs; and the crew were standing by the half deck hatch abaft the mainmast. We were then all unarmed. I knew that they were delaying the attack until the other canoes came up; and therefore cautioned my men not to rush down in a body to get armed, but to slip quietly down one at a time, so that the natives might not think we had any suspicion of their evil intentions; and thereby giving us more time to get ready. The men slipped down one by

one unnoticed by the natives, whom I kept in play the best way I could, in order to avert their attention. I then mustered the crew in the fore-cabin, twenty-one in number, and armed them.

We then made a rush up the after-hatch-ladder, and had—the crowd being so great at that time—to clear a footing on the deck with our bayonets. As the men got up, they formed back to back across the deck in two divisions, the one facing forward, and the other aft. At first the crowd fell back ; but being pressed forward by those in the rear, and led on by the chiefs, they made a furious rush upon us, yelling like fiends, and tried to strike the bayonets off our muskets with their clubs ; but without making any impression. Our men stood firm, with their muskets at the charge, and received them on the point of the bayonet. After a desperate resistance, in which they had many killed and wounded, we managed to clear the quarter-deck ; and leaving a few men to guard it, joined the others, and commenced charging the natives in the gangways, amidst showers of spears and stones thrown at us from all directions. The natives amidships retreated forward, and rallied about the windlass, where they fought desperately for some time, until the greater part were annihilated. One of our men got surrounded on the port side of the fore-castle, and fought bravely among the crowd. He had lost his musket and pistol, and had only his cutlass to defend himself with ; which was at last broken, by warding off the blows from their clubs. They instantly knocked him down with a club, fracturing his skull severely, and would have soon dispatched him, had we not rushed to his assistance.

One fellow was shot through the heart while aiming a blow at the fallen man. He had killed five men, and wounded several, with his cutlass before it broke. We at last succeeded in clearing the forecastle and got possession of the ship. During the whole of the above time they kept up a continual shower of spears, stones, and, latterly, clubs, from the canoes. After getting the decks cleared, we kept up a steady fire of musketry, which soon made them haul off to about 150 yards' distance, where they remained until we got the schooner underweigh. Our great guns were secured fore and aft, and not even loaded, so that we had nothing to trust to but our small arms. After the canoes hauled off, we ceased firing; got our guns run out and loaded; set the wounded men to work to fill cartridges; (having expended all our ammunition;) and commenced heaving in cable. When short, set the sails. A few minutes after, the sea breeze set in, when we weighed, and commenced beating down Balade Harbour. We did not get out clear of the reefs until four P.M., by which time we were quite exhausted.

The natives did not offer to molest us while getting underweigh and beating out. They appeared to be busy transporting their wounded on shore. Had they made a second attack upon us while getting underweigh, they would in all probability have overpowered us; as the morning was excessively hot, and our men quite exhausted. Our small crew fought gallantly, and our loss was but trifling, considering the disadvantages we laboured under. We had only one man dangerously wounded; the others were but slightly. The natives must have lost a great number of men. There were eight

kings, or rather high chiefs, on the quarter-deck when we commenced, seven of whom were killed on it, and the other on the fore-castle, when trying to make his escape.

During this fight we witnessed, what many would not be inclined to believe, the expertness with which the natives dodged the balls at the flash of the muskets; which in many instances they did most effectually.

I cannot look back to this affair with any degree of satisfaction. I had sufficient warning on the evening we anchored that the natives were not to be trusted; and yet that I again should allow them to fill the decks at daylight next morning, without even loading the guns, or making any preparations whatever for defence,—and this so contrary to my usual custom,—is a thing I cannot account for. On the morning of the fight, and while the natives were filling the decks, my crew came to me repeatedly, and requested permission to get armed, as they said they were confident the natives intended attacking us; but I treated their warning with ridicule, and would not allow them to bring any arms up.

The only reason I can give for acting as I did, was, that the Uea natives had been accustomed to come on board in great numbers, and always armed with clubs, without attempting any thing; and their King Whinigay had told me that the New Caledonians might be allowed on board, and were to be trusted; and I was so anxious to form a biche de mer fishery, that I forgot the risk I was running through my over anxiety and zeal for the success of the voyage. But my experience among savages since has taught me a different lesson; and the more I know of them and their character and habits, the

less I am inclined to trust them. Natives ought never to be suffered to come on deck ; but should be kept in their canoes, and away from the vessel's side, especially when any work is going on, or when getting underweigh. The best way is to make them keep under the stern. Those who have the most experience of savages, invariably trust them the least, and are always on their guard against treachery.

SIKYANA;

OR,

STEWART'S ISLANDS.

STEWART'S ISLANDS consist of five low coral islands, covered with cocoa-nut trees, and connected by coral reefs, forming a lagoon inside. The group is of a triangular form, fifteen miles in circumference, and visible from a ship's deck twelve miles. The easternmost and largest island is about a mile in length. It is situated in lat. $8^{\circ} 24' 24''$ S., long. $163^{\circ} 0'$ E. This position will be found nearly correct; ships bound to China or Manila from New South Wales, would have an excellent opportunity of testing their chronometers by sighting this group, as it lies directly in their track. The reef is steep, too, and may be approached to within a cable's length all round.

This little group is inhabited by a very hospitable and inoffensive race; who are of a light copper complexion. The population in September 1847, consisted only of forty-eight men, seventy-three women, and fifty children, in all one hundred and seventy-one souls. They are without exception the best disposed natives I have met with among the islands. I resided on this group for nine months in 1847, collecting biche de mer; during which time they treated me with the greatest kindness and hospitality. Although I was completely in their power, yet I found them strictly honest; and they were so willing to work

for me, that they continued to collect and cure biche de mer, day and night, until they had picked up all that the reefs produced*. The lagoon is well stocked with many varieties of fine fish, which they catch in various modes ; but chiefly with nets, on the shallow part of the reefs, at low water. They live principally on cocoa-nuts and fish, and appear to enjoy excellent health.

Pigs weighing 100 lbs., can be purchased for five pounds of tobacco, or ten yards of strong unbleached American drill, or calico. They will also take shirts, trousers, blankets, knives, saws, chisels, tomahawks, or small hatchets, fish-hooks, small boxes with locks and hinges, &c., in exchange for their island commodities. Strangers touching here, may allow them to come on board with perfect safety, as they are quite harmless.

They can nearly all speak more or less broken English, which they have picked up through their intercourse with whale ships, who often visit them to get supplies of cocoa-nuts and pigs, of which a plentiful supply can be at all times procured.

The little village where they reside, is situated on the lagoon side of the easternmost island. The other islands are uninhabited ; and are merely visited occasionally by the natives when out fishing at night. A ship in want of refreshments, should stand close in to the large island, and hoist a flag at the main ; when they will soon come off.

As my chief object in visiting the different islands in

* An American brig procured 250 piculs (equal to 133½ lbs.) of biche de mer at this group, in 1845 ; and I collected 265 piculs during my stay on the islands, in 1847, all of the first quality.

the Western Pacific, was for the purpose of forming establishments for collecting and curing biche de mer for the China market; I shall now give a description of the different species of biche de mer, together with remarks on collecting and curing it; being the result of five years' experience in that particular branch of trade:—

There are many kinds of biche de mer (a species of fish of the genus *Holothuria*) found on coral reefs in the Pacific Ocean; but only ten of these varieties are marketable in China; each being distinguished by well known names. As they vary in price from six to thirty-five Spanish dollars per picul, (133½ lbs.) it becomes a matter of great importance to obtain the superior qualities. The slug when cured presents quite a different appearance to what it does when caught; and no person, but one well acquainted with the trade, would be able to ascertain which were the first quality, by comparing the raw slug with a cured one. Again, the success of a voyage depends greatly on the knowledge possessed by the person in charge, of the localities in which the superior sorts are to be found, together with much experience in the mode of fishing, and curing them.

The superior qualities are known by the following names in the Sooloo and Manila markets:—I. Bangkolungan; II. Keeskeesan; III. Talepan; IV. Munang: each presenting a different appearance, and found in different depths of water on the reefs. Bangkolungan, when caught is from eleven to fifteen inches in length; of an oval shape, brown on the back, and the belly white and crusted with lime, with a row of teats on each side the belly. It is hard, rigid, and scarcely possesses any

power of locomotion. It has, however, the power of expanding, and contracting itself at pleasure. This quality is found on the inner edge of coral reefs, in from two to ten fathoms water, and on a bottom of coral and sand. It can only be procured by diving.

Keeskeesan, is from six to twelve inches in length, of an oval shape, quite black, and smooth on the back, with a dark greyish belly, and *one* row of teats on each side. When contracted, it is similar in shape to a land tortoise. This quality is found in shallow water, on the top of coral reefs, and on a bottom of coral and sand. Bangkolungan and Keeskeesan fetch about the same price; and the latter being the most plentiful and easiest caught, ought of course to be the kind most sought after.

Talepan, varies in length from nine inches to two feet, and presents the most remarkable appearance of any of the species of biche de mer. It is found on all parts of the reefs, but chiefly in from two to three fathoms water. It is of a dark red colour, and narrower in proportion than the before-mentioned kinds. The whole back is covered with large red prickles, which render it easily distinguishable from any of the other kinds. It is much softer than the black, and more difficult to cure.

Munang, is of a small size, seldom exceeding eight inches in length, of an oval shape, quite black, and smooth; has no teats or other excrescences, and is found in shallow water on the coral flats, and often among turtle grass near the shore. This is the kind which the American vessels chiefly procure at the Feejee Islands. It is worth from fifteen to twenty-five dollars per picul in the China market.

These four varieties form the superior qualities of the slug; and the following are the middling and inferior sorts;—V. *Sapatos China*, is of a reddish brown colour, and about the same size as the *Munang*. It presents a wrinkled surface, and is found adhering to the coral rocks on the top of the reefs. VI. *Lowlowan*, is of various lengths, black, wrinkled, and narrow. It is found on various parts of the reefs. VII. *Balati blanco*, is about nine inches in length, of an oval shape, and a white and orange colour; and may be easily known by its voiding a white adhesive substance, which adheres to the fingers when handled. It is found generally on the inner edge of reefs, and on a sandy bottom. Moonlight nights are the best time for collecting this sort, as they generally bury themselves in the sand during the day. VIII. *Matan* is of the same species and habits as VII. and only differs from it in colour, which is grey, brown and white speckled. IX. *Hangenan*, is generally about a foot in length; of a grey or greenish colour, wrinkled; and is found on the lagoon side of coral reefs. X. *Sapatos grande*, is about twelve or fifteen inches in length, and of a brown and white colour, wrinkled, and very inferior.

The following remarks on boiling *biche de mer*, are the result of a number of experiments made by me at different times :—*Bangkolungan* and *Keeskeesan* will require to be boiled about five minutes, or more, if the pot is nearly full; they require to be well stirred; and should be taken out when thoroughly heated through, by which time they will feel quite hard and elastic. The cut part of the fish, when properly boiled, should be of a blue and amber colour; and feel firm like Indian rubber. If the

pot is only half full, they will require to boil fully ten minutes before the cut part becomes of the blue and amber colour. The Talepan and Munang require to be boiled fully ten minutes. The Munang dries very quickly; but the Talepan is very difficult to cure, and often requires two boilings before it will dry. The Sapatos China requires to be boiled about fifteen minutes; if properly boiled, it will dry very quickly. The Balati Blanco and Matan require very little boiling, say three or four minutes if the pot is nearly full. They should be taken out as soon as they shrink and are thoroughly heated through. The Hangenan will require to be boiled about twenty minutes. This sort must be very carefully handled when raw, as it will break in pieces if held any time in the hand. It appears to me that there are two ways of boiling biche de mer equally good. The first is to take them out when boiled about a minute, or as soon as they shrink and feel hard; the other method is to boil them as before stated; but in boiling either way, the fish ought, if properly cooked, to dry, like a boiled egg, immediately on being taken out of the pot. If curing a large quantity at a time, I should prefer boiling them slightly at first; and when half dry, I would reboil them. This method I have tried, and find it makes the biche de mer look much better, and less wrinkled when dry. Although they require a little more time in drying, if re-boiled, yet I am convinced they would sell better. Biche de mer dried in the sun fetches a higher price than those dried over a wood-fire; but this method would not answer in curing a ship's cargo, as they require fully twenty days

to dry ; whereas by smoking them they are well cured in four days.

Much skill is required in drying biche de mer, as well as in boiling it, as too much heat will cause it to blister, and get porous like sponge ; whereas, too little heat again, will make it spoil, and get putrid within twenty-four hours after being boiled. There is, likewise, great care and method required in conducting the gutting ; for if this be not properly attended to, by keeping the fish in salt water, and from exposure to the sun, it will, when raw, soon subside into a blubbery mass, and become putrid in a few hours after being caught.

A vessel fitting out for a biche de mer voyage, should be well manned and armed ; and have good strong boarding nettings ; with waterproof arm-chests for the tops, sufficiently large to hold a dozen muskets each. She will require to have a number of large pots or boilers on board, similar to whalers try pots ; and skimmers, ladles, fire-rakes, shovels, buckets, tubs, cross-cut saws, and axes ; and, if procurable, a quantity of bricks to place the pots on, as the stones found on coral islands will not stand the fire.

The first thing to be done on arrival at an island where the slug is plentiful, is, to erect a large curing-house on shore, about ninety feet in length, thirty feet in breadth, and the sides about ten feet in height. These houses are generally built of island materials ; and thatched with mats, made by the natives, of cocoa-nut leaves ; the thatch must be well put on, so as to prevent the rain from penetrating. The sides are likewise covered in with these

mats, and a small door should be left in each end. Platforms, or *batters*, for drying the slug on, are then erected along one side of the house. They should run the whole length, and be about eight feet in breadth; the lower one about breast high from the ground, and the upper, three feet above that. The frames are generally made of cocoa-nut trees, or pandanus; and covered with two or three layers of split bamboo, or reeds, seized close, so as to form a sort of net-work for the fish to lie on. Much care and skill is required in the construction of these *batters*, or platforms, so as to prevent the biche de mer from burning, which it would be liable to, were they not properly fitted. A trench, about six feet in breadth, and two in depth, is then dug the whole length of the *batters* for the fires. Tubs are placed at short distances along the side of the trench, filled with salt water, and a good supply of buckets kept in readiness, to prevent the fires from blazing up and burning the fish, or platforms, as well as to regulate the degree of heat necessary for drying the slug.

The process of curing is this:—The biche de mer is first gutted, then boiled in those large pots; and, after being well washed in fresh water, carried into the curing-house, in small tubs, or baskets, and emptied on the lower *batter*, where it is spread out (about five inches thick) to dry. The trench is then filled with firewood, and when the *batter* is full of fish, the fires are lighted, and the drying process commences. From this time the fires must be kept constantly going, day and night, with a careful officer and regular watch to attend to it. On

the afternoon of the following day, the fires are extinguished for a short time, and the fish shifted to the upper *batter*, having been first examined, and splints of wood put into those which may not be drying properly. When this is done, the lower *batter* is again filled from the pots, the fires immediately lighted, and the drying process continued as before. The fish on the lower *batter* must be turned frequently during the first twelve hours. On the second day (the fires having been extinguished as before) the slug on the upper *batter* is shifted close over to one end, to make room for those on the lower *batter* again; and so on, as before, for the two following days, by which time the first day's fish will be properly cured. It is then taken off the batter, and, after having been carefully examined, and those not dry put up again, the quantity cured is sent on board the vessel, and stowed away in bags. But should the ship be long in procuring a cargo, it will require to be dried over again every three months, in the sun, on platforms erected over the deck, as it soon gets damp, unless when packed in air-tight casks.

If the biche de mer is plentiful, and the natives bring it daily in large quantities, forty men will be required to perform the work of a house of the above size; and the pots will each require two hands to attend them. These curing-houses consume a large quantity of firewood daily. When biche de mer is cured, and stowed away, great care should be taken to prevent it from getting wet, as one damp fish will speedily spoil a whole bag.

In conclusion, I may remark, that the process of curing the slug *properly*, is so difficult, and requires so much experience, that none but those who have been for years engaged in the trade would ever succeed in doing it.

THE EDDYSTONE ISLAND. NEW GEORGIA.

THE EDDYSTONE ISLAND is of small extent, elevated 1036 feet on its west side, and situated in lat. $8^{\circ} 18' S.$, long. $156^{\circ} 30' 40'' E.$ A small low island lies off its south-east side, connected to it by a shallow bar at each end of the channel, with deep water between. It has a small harbour on its north-west side, formed by reefs with a snug cove, nearly land-locked, at its head. A vessel can moor to the trees, in the cove, where she will be completely sheltered from all winds, and lie as safe as in a dock. I visited this island in 1844, in the brig *Naiad*, and lay in this harbour for six weeks, collecting sulphur and trading for tortoise-shell and biche de mer; while there I made a plan of it. I was there in the months of February and March; and we experienced very bad weather during the greater part of our stay; indeed for the last four weeks of it, we had nothing but a continuance of north-west gales, with violent squalls, and thick hazy weather. I found three runaway sailors living on it, who had been on shore for some time; and as they had acquired a considerable knowledge of the language during their stay, I found them useful as interpreters; and got a deal of information from them with regard to the general character of the natives of New Georgia.

The Eddystone Island is of volcanic formation. It is well wooded but very rocky, and mountainous on its west side; and all its southern shore is characterised by

high rocky cliffs, generally inaccessible. On its south-west part, a large quantity of sulphur might be easily collected, which the natives would carry down in baskets to the stony beach, and it could be brought round to the cove in boats in fine weather. Two or three tons might be collected daily. It is found near the surface, intermixed with clay, about half way up the hill, on the top of which is the crater of an extinct volcano. The ground is quite hot in the vicinity of the sulphur, and steam issues through the fissures of the rocks in some places. I also observed several hot springs near the beach.

The soil of the Eddystone is either very indifferent, or the natives pay little attention to its cultivation, as its vegetable productions are of a very inferior quality. The cultivated plants and trees are, cocoa-nut, bread-fruit, bananas, sugar-cane, betel-nut and sweet potatoes. The latter is largely cultivated, but they seldom grow to any size, and are of a very indifferent quality.

Although this island, and the greater part of New Georgia, cannot furnish any supplies (except cocoa-nuts) for the refreshment of whalers; yet I know of no islands in the Pacific where so much tortoise-shell can be procured. Whalers usually get from one and a half to three pounds of shell from the natives for a small hatchet or tomahawk; and from personal experience, I believe that a person well acquainted in the trade, with an assortment of *suitable* goods on board, might procure in three or four months, (by making the circuit of the islands in the proper season,) fully two thousand four hundred pounds of tortoise-shell. The reefs around New Georgia, and the eastern part of New Guinea, produce biche de

mer of the first quality ; and sandal-wood has been seen on an island not very far from the Eddystone. Pearl oysters of a large size, are also to be found in abundance on the reefs. Excellent ginger grows on all the islands of this Archipelago. The Eddystone Island, although appearing insignificant as regards trade, on comparison with the neighbouring islands, must, on account of its natives being on friendly terms with Europeans, (which their neighbours are not,) become the channel of communication with the larger islands of New Georgia, and strangers should procure pilots and interpreters at the Eddystone, before going to any of the other islands, as the charts in use at present are utterly useless, and likely to run a stranger into danger, if he steers by them. New Georgia consists *of a number of islands*, with wide channels amongst them ; whereas it is laid down in the charts as *one large island*. The Eddystone natives are well acquainted, as they often go upwards of a hundred miles from home, in their large canoes, on war expeditions.

The goods most suitable for New Georgia, are axes, adzes, tomakawks, blue cloth, calico, small beads of all colours, cheap straw hats, knives, chisels, fish-hooks, gimblets, looking glasses, boxes, &c. ; and at the Eddystone, in addition to the above, muskets, flints, cartouch-boxes, gunpowder, and lead.

The Eddystone natives, and those of New Georgia generally, are in stature, rather below the middle size. Their complexion is quite black, and their hair similar in appearance to that of the African negroes ; yet they have nothing of the negro cast of countenance about

them, but resemble more the Papuans of New Guinea, in their general appearance.

Both sexes are fond of ornamenting their persons with necklaces and belts, composed of small glass beads, tastefully braided on a string. The chiefs and great warriors wear a number of rings on each arm, made from a gigantic cockle found on the reefs. These rings are so highly prized; and so difficult to be obtained, as often to occasion war between the different tribes; and human life is considered of so little value by the natives of this archipelago, that one of these rings can command the head of any individual; therefore those who have got them are possessed of much power, and are consequently much dreaded. These natives have the lobes of their ears perforated, and the males distend them to such an immense size, as to insert round blocks of painted wood more than three inches in diameter. When at war they paint their faces and breasts with some white pigment, which gives them a most horrible appearance. They all chew betel-nut, and their teeth are quite black in consequence. They use an aromatic leaf and lime as condiments, similar to the Malays.

With regard to the general character of the New Georgia natives; *nothing* can be said in their favour. They are, without exception, the most treacherous and blood thirsty race in the Western Pacific, and most notorious for cannibalism. They are so addicted to the latter propensity at many of the islands, that human flesh actually forms their chief article of diet. I have been most disgusted, on visiting some of their houses, to observe human heads, arms, and legs, suspended from

the rafters. At the time of my visit, the Eddystone natives had just returned from a war expedition, in which they had come off conquerors; and had brought home with them—including men, women, and children—no less than ninety-three human heads! On my first landing, I was horrified to observe those very heads hanging along the wall plates of their war-canoe house.

These natives are so treacherous and rapacious in their habits, that they have generally their houses built on the most inaccessible spots they can pick out, so as to guard against being taken by surprise in the night.

The canoes of this archipelago are well constructed, and carry from three to thirty men, according to size. They are built of thin boards, sewed together, and are timbered throughout their length. They are shaped something like a whale-boat, and are the swiftest canoes in the Pacific. The stem and stern-post of the war-canoes, project upwards six or eight feet, and are decorated with shells and feathers. Some of them are inlaid with mother-of-pearl shells about the bow and stern. They have neither outrigger nor sail, but are propelled by paddles.

The Eddystone natives go sometimes as far as Murray's Island, in these canoes, on war expeditions*. The chiefs of New Georgia appear to possess very little authority, nor do the natives pay much respect to them. I had an instance of this while at the Eddystone. I gave the head chief a present on my arrival; but he was afraid to take it openly on shore, and came for it in the night unknown to his countrymen. He related many instances of chiefs having been poisoned by their dependents after

* Their arms consist of tomahawks, spears, clubs, shields made of rattans, and bows and arrows; the latter are poisoned.

having received presents from ships ; and said his countrymen were in general so covetous, that they would murder any one, even their own friends, for the sake of obtaining a tomahawk, or a few pieces of iron-hoop. The dress of the males consists of a slight covering of tappa tied round the loins ; but that of the females is most ludicrous, and *indescribable*.

Sperm-whales frequent the shores of New Georgia, New Ireland, Malanta, and Bougainville's Island, during the months of October, November, December, and January ; but it is hardly safe to chase them near the shores of Bouka, as the natives of that island have often attacked whale-boats when at a distance from their ship ; therefore strangers lowering boats after whales, when near any of these islands, should be particularly on their guard, and have two or three muskets in each boat.

I shall now conclude these remarks with a few hints to strangers regarding the precautions to be observed when trading with these natives. Although I have advised those who intend trading at New Georgia to procure pilots and interpreters at the Eddystone, yet I would by no means recommend strangers to put much confidence in their professions, nor to believe half what they say. They may do very well to point out where such a vessel anchored ; or where tortoise-shell can be procured ; but their knowledge of the harbours and shoals is very limited. If the weather is clear, no danger need be apprehended ; as an experienced officer on the fore-topsail-yard can see all dangers, when the sun is not ahead. Nor would I advise a ship touching at the Eddystone to allow *any* natives on deck, except the two highest chiefs,

whose names are Meno and Lobie. When trading at the other islands, and before allowing any canoes alongside, heave your ship to with her head off shore. Then station your men around the vessel, at equal distances, well armed; and instruct them not to allow any natives on deck; at the same time caution them particularly not to point their muskets at them; for should they do so, you will in all probability receive a shower of poisoned arrows from the canoes. If possible, keep all the canoes under the stern; and allow no person but one of your officers to barter with them.

As the success of your voyage depends entirely on keeping on peaceable terms with the natives of the different islands you may visit, you should take care not to be the first aggressor. Therefore, take nothing from them without payment, not even a cocoa-nut, nor so much as a bundle of grass; and if they refuse to take the price you offer, return the article immediately. Should you anchor in any of the harbours of New Georgia, allow none of your crew liberty on shore, no matter how friendly the natives may appear, as there is always more or less danger attending it. Although a run on shore might conduce much to the health of the crew, yet it must be dispensed with at these islands. In trading with these natives, you will have to submit to many insults; and must be particularly careful not to strike or offend the chiefs—insignificant as they appear to be; for if you do so, the consequences may lead to bloodshed, the ruin of the voyage, and perhaps a general massacre of all on board*.

* Several vessels have been captured by the natives of this archipelago, and their whole crews massacred.

The Eddystone is called by the natives Simbo.

The following description of WOODLARK ISLAND is copied from the "Nautical Magazine," for 1840, page 465, written by Captain Hunter: "As an island of considerable magnitude exists between the Laughlan Islands and the Louisiade, which I cannot find inserted in any chart, perhaps the following brief account may be of service, until that part of the world is more minutely explored. 'Sept. 27th, 1836—Made the Laughlan Islands, (having left the Treasury Islands and New Georgia, two days before,) and found their appearances and situations to agree with those given in Horsburgh's Directory. Shortened sail during the night, and headed to the northward. At daylight kept off to the W.S.W., and made all sail. At 11 A.M., saw a small and high rock to the southward. I was not very near it, but should esteem it to be in about $9^{\circ} 12' S.$, and $153^{\circ} 25' E.$ Steering onwards to the westward, made the land ahead, which on nearing was found to be of some extent. Ran towards it until within a mile of the breakers, and tacked off for the night; stood in next morning, and sent two boats in with orders to land, should they see no natives, as there were plenty of coconuts in sight; but before they reached the shore, two canoes shoved off. These our boats pulled to, and obtained a small quantity of tarra and a few fish, giving in return some pocket-knives and pieces of iron-hooping. I cruized off the north side of the island, at this time, two days, and found it bold to approach, and clear of danger; and in extent about forty miles, nearly E. by S., and W. by N. It is of moderate elevation, with some hills in the

interior, the highest being of a remarkable sugar-loaf shape. There are one or two bays on this side, and on the western side of the deepest one I observed the entrance of a small inlet or river, but not being in want of water at the time did not examine it. The natives are Papuas, and on cruizing off the island the second time, which was in November following, several large canoes visited us, the men in which seemed well disposed. They came alongside without hesitation, and traded freely what little they had brought, consisting of tarra and cocoa-nuts. I gave them in return some fine yams, of which we had a good supply from Cape Denis. They however keep an abundant stock of bows, arrows, and spears in their canoes.

“I made the eastern end of this island in $9^{\circ} 9' S.$, and $153^{\circ} 5' E.$, and the western end in $8^{\circ} 53' S.$, and $152^{\circ} 24' E.$ I believe it to be narrow in a N. and S. direction with small islets lying off the south side, probably attached with reefs; but not having passed round to the southward, merely form this opinion from what I could see in a masthead view from its ends. Westward, and in sight from the west end of this island, are three small and high islands, not four as is inserted in some charts, the situations of which I made as follows:—Easternmost $8^{\circ} 50' S.$, $152^{\circ} 00' E.$, middle $8^{\circ} 49' S.$, $151^{\circ} 56' E.$, Westernmost $8^{\circ} 46' S.$, $151^{\circ} 52' E.$, from hence about ten miles W.N.W. is Jouvaneys Island. In running from the Laughlan Islands to Cape Denis you never lose sight of land. I lay no claim whatever to the discovery of this island, it was first pointed out by Capt. Grimes, of the Woodlark of Sydney, which ship I saw there on my return in

November, and although it will be seen that Bristows' track, in Mr. Norie's charts, passes over the west end of it, and it may seem large to have escaped being known; it is, however, not the less true that it exists there, the longitude agreeing with that in which Cape Denis, the Treasury Islands, and Laughlan Islands are placed in the charts. Having two chronometers on board, I could not be much in error as to their relative positions. As the islands hereabouts are not much frequented, it may not be deemed irrelevant to state that all ships ought to be on their guard in their intercourse with the natives; I mean as regards landing amongst them. There can be no danger in allowing them to come alongside, and trading in this way without restraint, although you will generally find them well armed with spears, bows, and arrows; but on no account should landing be made without a particular object, and then well armed. I allude chiefly to the Solomon Islands. You may perhaps pull in and go ashore without seeing a soul, but no sooner have you got a short distance from the boat, than they rush out from the thickets in hundreds. This has happened to one or two vessels at New Georgia, and the crews have with difficulty regained the boats with some mortally, and others severely wounded. I may add further that the Louisiade and Solomon Islands are very imperfectly known."

SAN CHRISTOVAL ISLAND.

SAN CHRISTOVAL ISLAND is of large extent, being seventy miles in length, in a north-west and south-east direction; and about twenty miles in breadth. The principal headlands are situated as follows:—Cape de la Recherche in lat. $10^{\circ} 12' 30''$ S., long. $161^{\circ} 22'$ E., Cape Philip in lat. $10^{\circ} 33'$ S., long. $161^{\circ} 32'$ E., Cape Sidney in lat. $10^{\circ} 48'$ S., long. $161^{\circ} 50'$ E., and Cape Oriental in lat. $10^{\circ} 50'$ S., long. $162^{\circ} 22'$ E. Several islands lie off its east side. It has a good harbour on its south-west side, and an anchorage may be found in a bay on its north-west part. The bank of soundings is steep to, and extends only a short distance from the shore. The best anchorage is in nine fathoms water, the village bearing S.E., distant four hundred yards. Excellent water can be procured from a small river at the head of the bay, and firewood in abundance, but the natives are not to be trusted, and the boats should be well armed when wooding and watering. A stranger should not allow *any* natives to come on deck, nor should any of the crew be allowed liberty on shore. I visited this bay last in September, 1847. The name of the village is Maru. The natives say that the sandal-wood tree grows on the centre and southern part of the island.

The goods most suitable for this island; are tomahawks, axes, adzes, chisels, saws, gimblets, scissors, good iron hoop, small iron pots, red cloth, gouges, files, fish-hooks assorted, empty bottles, and red, white, blue, green,

black, and yellow glass beads, large and small, and small boxes with locks and hinges.

The natives of this island are cannibals, and their manners and customs similar to that of the natives of New Georgia.

THE MASSACRE ISLANDS.

THE MASSACRE ISLANDS, so named by Captain Benjamin Morrell, who had nineteen of his crew killed one morning by the natives of these islands, while on shore building a biche de mer house, consist of a number of low coral islands, covered with cocoa-nut trees, and connected by coral reefs, forming a large lagoon inside, with a good ship passage leading into it through the reef.

This group is situated in about lat. $4^{\circ} 36' S.$, long. $156^{\circ} 30' E.$ I visited these islands in 1844, and remained four weeks collecting biche de mer. The natives would not allow us to land on the large island; nor would they render us any assistance. We then removed the vessel to the opposite side of the lagoon, where we found a small uninhabited island near the margin of the reef, on which we built a fort, or rather a high stockade of palm trees, to protect us from the natives; but although they did not attack us on the island, they attempted to cut off the boats several times, when at a distance from the ship, collecting biche de mer on the reefs. We found the slug plentiful, and of a superior quality, but

on account of the determined hostility of the natives we were obliged to leave. The island we built our fort on, appeared to have been previously occupied by Europeans; as we found evident traces of a *biche de mer* house. This probably was the island where Captain Morrell cured his *biche de mer*, on his second visit; and where he had a guard house built on the top of some large trees.

OCEAN ISLAND.

OCEAN ISLAND in lat. $0^{\circ} 48'$ S., long. $169^{\circ} 49'$ E., is about ten or fifteen miles in circumference, high in the centre, and of a circular form. It has neither harbour nor anchorage, and is steep to all round, clear of hidden dangers. Boats can generally land on the north and north-east part at all seasons; but a safe landing can seldom be effected on any other part of the island.

This island is very thickly inhabited by a fine looking race, of a light copper complexion, and well formed features. Their hair is black and curly, and they dress it with a variety of perfumes mixed with cocoa-nut oil. The men go entirely naked; but the women wear a dress made of young cocoa-nut leaves, slit into narrow strips, and braided on a string at one end, which they tie round them; these dresses are only about a foot in depth.

Their food consists chiefly of cocoa-nuts, bananas,

sugar-cane, and fish, but the island produces a little bread-fruit and wild tarro also.

Their houses are small, but neat. They are thatched with cocoa-nut leaves, and the sides are open, but they have a loft resting on the wall plates, on which they sleep. The lower apartment is paved with round stones, which makes it very cool.

Their canoes are built of thin plank sewed together, and generally carry from four to ten men each. They have no sails, but are propelled by paddles.

When I last visited this island there were no less than seventeen white men living on shore, several of whom were runaway convicts from New South Wales, or Norfolk Island. Cocoa-nuts and fowls may be obtained from these natives at a moderate price; but strangers should be continually guarded against treachery, more especially at islands where reprobate white men are found domesticated with the natives.

Although I have landed on this island, I would not advise strangers to do so, nor would I advise them to allow *any* natives on deck.

Ocean Island can be seen twenty-five miles from a ship's deck, in clear weather.

PLEASANT ISLAND.

PLEASANT ISLAND is situated in lat. $0^{\circ} 25' S.$, long. $167^{\circ} 5' E.$ It is about fifteen miles in circumference, rather low, covered with cocoa-nut and other trees, and of a circular form. A fringe reef projects from the shore about two hundred yards all round it. It has neither harbour nor anchorage, is steep to on all sides, and clear of hidden dangers. This island is thickly peopled by a good-looking race of able-bodied men, who are of a light copper complexion; and appear inoffensive in their manners to a stranger; but, notwithstanding their mild appearance, they are not to be trusted, as they succeeded in cutting off a whale ship some years ago. They had some runaway convicts residing among them at the time, who not only planned the attack, but assisted them to capture the vessel.

The houses and canoes of these natives, are similar in appearance to those of Ocean Island.

The dress of the females consists of a wrapper of native cloth, made of the fibres of the banana tree, and wove on a small loom. The males wear a short grass petticoat, similar to that worn by the women of Ocean Island.

The manufactures of these natives consist of sleeping mats, baskets, native cloth, small coir rope, women's dresses, neck-ornaments, and pandanus-tree hats. The sleeping mats are neatly made of pandanus-leaves, plait-

ed, and form many variegated figures. The small rope is made from cocoa-nut-husks ; the women's dresses from the young leaves of the cocoa-nut, slit into narrow strips ; and the hats are similar in every respect to the cabbage-tree hat usually made by sailors ; indeed they have learned the art of making them from runaway sailors who have been living amongst them.

Their food consists of cocoa-nuts, of which they have an abundance ; bread-fruit, wild tarro, bananas, sugarcane, and fish : arrowroot grows wild ; and they make a delicious cake by mixing it with grated cocoa-nut, and molasses made from cocoa-nut toddy, which they knead together, and bake in an oven of heated stones, in which all their other food is cooked.

The articles of trade most sought after by these natives, are muskets, gunpowder, flints, lead, tomahawks, axes, adzes, chisels, gimblets, fish-hooks, calico, shirts, iron cooking-pots, tobacco, and pipes. Vessels touching here can always obtain a good supply of cocoa-nuts and poultry at a very moderate price ; but strangers should be particularly on their guard, and not allow *any* natives on deck.

There were two white men living on shore when I last visited this island, in 1845.

The following description of Pleasant Island and its inhabitants, is by Captain Simpson of Sydney—see “Nautical Magazine” for 1844, p. 100.

“ At 2 P.M., on the 1st of February, 1843, made Pleasant Island. This island was passed by Captain Fearn in the year 1789 ; upon his authority, Horsburgh places it in lat. $0^{\circ} 20'$ S., long. $167^{\circ} 10'$ E. Norie gives it the

same longitude, and five miles more to the southward. I make the latitude of centre $0^{\circ} 35' S.$, which I find agrees with several ships that have sighted it. I had no opportunity of getting observations for the longitude, my dead reckoning from A.M. sight makes it about fifteen miles to the westward of the assigned position. This island is rather low, and could not, I think, be seen more than seven leagues from aloft; two round hummocks, some distance apart are first visible, and as it is approached from the south-east, a very remarkable solitary tree, towering above all others, makes its appearance on the eastern extremity of the island. As I neared the land, several canoes came alongside, there were about eight or ten natives in each. They brought with them for sale a few very small fowls, some cocoa-nuts, and two or three straw hats; the latter they had been taught to make by the Europeans: these articles they were exceedingly anxious to barter for trinkets, beads, pipes, and tobacco; the latter were most in demand: they all appeared quite adepts in the art of bargaining. The men are about the middle size, well, but not robustly made, of a dark copper colour, with a very smooth sleek skin; they had no beard, hair black and straight; they have no affinity to the Papuan race, but are evidently, from their high cheek bones and irregular cast of features, of the Malayan descent; and from what I saw of the natives of the island of Ascension, one of the Carolines, North Pacific, I am of opinion they are both sprung from the same origin. Four of the women came alongside, and if they were a sample, they may be considered rather good looking, having a very fine expression, black eyes shaded by a beautiful long dark

lash, features regular, figure good, rather inclined to be stout; they appeared naturally graceful and easy in their manner; their dress consisted of a piece of native cloth round the waist; the men wore the maro—the usual dress among nearly all the Polynesian Islands—it is made of several tiers of dried grass, about eighteen inches long, strung together, and fastened round their waist.

“Both sexes appeared to be mild and tractable in their manner, but much addicted to pilfering; we detected several in the attempt; when threatened they did not deny the crime, or consider the expected punishment unjust. These natives, unlike their prototypes on the Island of Ascension in this respect, have no tradition of their origin, or the manner their forefathers first came on the island: they have no religion of any kind, neither do they believe in a future state; they appear, however, to have some slight idea of an evil spirit.

“They are divided into seven or eight tribes, each tribe governed by a chief and queen, who presides over the whole; it is her duty to decide all disputes which may arise among the chiefs, and from her decision there is no appeal; in her also is vested the sovereign prerogative of making peace or war among the different tribes; and on all these occasions I am told she is implicitly obeyed. From what I could learn there were about 1,400 inhabitants on this island, which is only fourteen miles in circumference, and they are, I believe, rapidly on the increase, and fears are entertained that it will eventually be too small to support them. Their food consists chiefly of cocoa-nuts, the fruit of another description of palm, probably the pandamus, and fish, which are not very

numerous. I saw none of the tropical fruits, which are generally very prolific in these islands, neither had they any bread-fruit, which is the principal support of the natives on nearly all the Polynesian Islands. It might, however, be very easily imported from the adjacent islands, and from the climate and soil being well calculated for its growth it would doubtless thrive well.

“When hove to off the island, an European came on board, who stated himself to be George Lovett, a deserter from the London whaler *Offley*. He brought off a list of the whalers, with their success that had recently touched here.

“This island and many others in the Pacific, are infested by Europeans, who are either runaway convicts, expirees, or deserters from whalers, and are for the most part men of the very worst description, who, it appears prefer living a precarious life of indolence and ease with the unenlightened savage, rather than submit to the restraint of the salutary laws of civilised society; they live in a manner easily to be imagined from men of this class, without either law, religion, or education, to control them, with an unlimited quantity of ardent spirits which they obtain from distilling the toddy that exudes from the cocoa-nut tree. This spirit is not very palatable, but it serves, to use their own expression, to tickle the brain; when under the influence of intoxication the most atrocious crimes are committed by these miscreants, who must both by their pernicious example and advice do much injury to this naturally mild and well disposed race of men, and will retard considerably the great work of civilisation and Christianity whenever these blessings

are offered them by the servants of God. These fiends frequently urge the different tribes to warrant deeds of blood, in order to participate in the spoils of the vanquished.

“ The following occurrences will tend in some measure to show the brutal manner in which these wretches live. They are in constant dread of each other, and by their deeds even horrify the untutored savage. I give them on the authority of the man Lovett, and from the clear and consistent manner in which he relates them, I have no doubt of the truth.

“ Lovett states that there are at present seven Europeans on Pleasant Island, named as follows:—Frederick Fisher, William Day, both deserters from the brig *Clarence*, of Sydney; William Ross, from the *Lady Blackwood*, Sydney; James Ashford, or some such name, from the *Rifleman*, of London; Darby —, from the *Clarkston*, of Sydney; and the steward of the *William*, of Sydney, name unknown.

“ Lovett says, last evening (January 31, 1843) Fisher and Ashford came to visit Day and myself, and brought with them some of the island spirit to make merry with. Day got drunk and commenced quarrelling with the native woman he was living with, and beat her violently with his fist; Ashford (a lad of eighteen) interfered, and endeavoured to reconcile them, when Day went into an adjoining room, got a musket, took a deliberate aim at Ashford, and fired; fortunately the ball had been previously drawn, but this Day did not know; he acknowledged he thought there was a ball in the gun; the charge of powder entered Ashford's left breast, and injured him

severely, the muzzle being within six feet of him. His recovery is at present very doubtful.

“ It was notorious, more especially amongst the Sydney whalers, who occasionally called at this island, and the fact was, I believe, not unknown to the government authorities in Sydney, that there were several runaway doubly-convicted felons who had cut a whale-boat out, and made their escape from the penal settlement of Norfolk Island, and were living in this place for several years. It appears there were four of these villains at first, two subsequently left in an American whaler, either to carry their pernicious influence to some of the adjacent islands, or proceed to America; the remaining two were well known by the names of Paddy and Jones; the former died of dysentery some time since, and Lovett gives the following account of the latter, who appears to have been a most desperate and depraved character. Lovett obtained his information from the natives who were present at the time, and I have since been confirmed in its truth by the testimony of the master of a whaler, who touched at this island shortly after the event alluded to took place.

“ It appears that on the 15th of October, 1841, eleven Europeans were deliberately murdered by the monster Jones, in the following manner:—He invited them all to visit him to partake of a feast, and when he had got his victims intoxicated with the island spirit, he gave them food in which he had previously mixed poison. This proved fatal to seven: the remaining four having refused to eat, he watched his opportunity and shot them. Most of these men are supposed to have been deserters from the *Woodlark*, Sydney whaler. The only cause which

instigated the monster to this wholesale murder was jealousy, he being fearful that some of these unfortunate men might supersede him in his influence with the natives, over whom he had hitherto unlimited control. To remove suspicion from himself he endeavoured to make it appear that the deed had been perpetrated by some of the natives, which they indignantly denied, and in consequence withdrew their countenance from him, and he was subsequently compelled to leave the island clandestinely, in the American whaler *Gideon Hauling*, and was again landed by her on a small island three miles to the eastward of Pleasant Island, called Ocean Island*, where he remained for eight months, and again returned in the London whaler *Eleanor* to Pleasant Island; but finding from the ill-feeling the natives had towards him, he could not remain with safety, he again left in an American whaler, and has never since visited this place. Captain Stokes, of the whaler *Bermondsey*, reports having seen him since on Guam, one of the Marian islands, a prisoner in chains, and which report has been confirmed by Captain Bunker, of the *Elizabeth*; but whether he has been confined for any fresh crime committed there, or given up by some vessel as a runaway convict, does not appear. It is most likely to be the former, as I do not think the Spanish government would interfere in the latter case.

“ On my passage down to China, I went on board the ship *William Gillies*, from Macao, and learnt from her that Jones had arrived there from Guam, and was anxi-

* Capt. Simpson is in error in saying that Ocean Island is only three miles east of Pleasant Island. It is 163 miles to the eastward of it.—A.C.

ous to ship for England. Jones was personally known to some of the *Gillies'* crew.

“ It is to be feared that these horrible scenes of bloodshed and depravity are of frequent occurrence amongst the Polynesian Isles, more especially to the westward, where no effort has hitherto been made to introduce civilisation and Christianity. Vain and futile will be the attempt, whilst these miscreants are permitted to remain with the natives, corrupting them by their baneful examples and selfish advice, introducing intoxication and disease in its many horrible forms, and teaching these naturally mild and tractable race of men the grossest depravity. In many of these places the Europeans are very numerous; on the Island of Ascension, which I visited in 1841, there were upwards of sixty, and will, doubtless, should opportunity offer, cut out any vessel which might be tempted to stop at this island in order to obtain refreshments, as it lies immediately in the track of ships going the eastern route from Sydney to China. Masters of vessels should, therefore, be cautious how they approach—the strictest vigilance is necessary to prevent surprise.

“ It would be advisable for the government occasionally to send a man-of-war to visit these islands; her presence alone would be very beneficial in keeping these men in check, as there is nothing they dread more than a vessel of that description. They are generally very cautious in not boarding a vessel until they have ascertained her character and force.

“ Lovett also informed me there was a white man on this island, who had been living there for many years; he is quite a European in appearance, and is thought to be

either one of the boys belonging to the *John Bull* or *Princess Charlotte*, both which vessels were supposed to be lost or cut out near this island, and he is thought to be either a lad named Backs or Le Burn. The following is his description :—Apparently about thirty-four years of age, but probably younger; complexion is inclined to fair, whiskers red, hair light and disposed to curl. He is not permitted by the natives to associate with the whites, nor is he allowed to go on board any vessel. He cannot speak English, but appears to understand it.”

SHANK'S ISLAND, said to lie in lat. $0^{\circ} 25'$ S., long. $163^{\circ} 0'$ E., does not exist: the person who reported it must have mistaken Pleasant Island for a new discovery. The mistake in all probability has been occasioned by the current, which runs sometimes at the rate of two miles and a half per hour near the equator.

COVEL'S GROUP.

COVEL'S GROUP, in lat. $4^{\circ} 30' N.$, long. $168^{\circ} 42' E.$, consists of thirteen low coral islands, covered with coconut trees, and connected by coral reefs, forming a large lagoon inside. The group is thirty miles in circumference, has a good ship passage leading through the reef to the lagoon on the west side, and is thickly inhabited by an able bodied race of men, who are of a light copper complexion. They have large canoes, or rather proas at this group, capable of carrying fifty men. I visited these islands in February, 1845, and before even getting to an anchor was attacked outside the reef by three large proas, carrying one hundred and fifty men. I had allowed too many of them on board, thinking they were friendly, and never supposing that they would attempt to take the ship outside the reef; but seeing us unprepared, they made a furious rush, yelling like fiends, and drove us all off the deck.

The following account of this skirmish is copied from my Journal, and will show the danger of putting the least confidence in the friendly professions of savages; and also the necessity of having the crew under arms, while holding the slightest intercourse with them.

Brig *Naiad*, February, 23rd, 1845, A.M., fresh easterly winds, and gloomy; ship lying to, with her head to the northward. 4, A.M., made sail, and stood to the westward. Daylight saw Covell's Group bearing from W. to W.N.W.,

hailed our wind to round the northern part of it. 8, A.M., standing to the westward along the reef, and keeping a good look-out from the mast-head for an opening into the lagoon. 9, A.M., observed three very large canoes coming out from the west side of the group, under sail. From this time until noon, we kept running along the reef to the south-west, but could see no channel leading to the lagoon. A few minutes after noon, we hove to, and one of the proas carrying, fifty-one men, made fast to our stern. A number of her crew swam on board, who eagerly exchanged their neck ornaments, and native fish-hooks, for beads, and iron hoop. I was very much pleased with their appearance, as they had no arms whatever *that I could see*. Having learned from them that a good channel leading to the lagoon might be found by running some miles farther along the reef, and being anxious to get the vessel to an anchor before dark, I got them all (except three) to swim back to their proa, and made all sail along the reef to the southward. The three proas then made sail and accompanied us. While running along the reef, I had an arm-stand, which stood on the quarter-deck, filled with loaded muskets; and wads and shot placed by each gun, ready for loading. We got the boarding nettings seized to the rails, with lines rove to each yard-arm, ready for tricing out. The top arm-chests were also got on deck, and every preparation made which was necessary for defence. About 1, P.M., I saw a good channel from the fore-topsail-yard, leading to the lagoon. At 1h. 30m. it commenced raining, *when we passed the muskets below*. At two o'clock, being then abreast of the entrance leading

to the lagoon, and about half a mile from the reef, a violent squall of wind and rain came on, which obliged us to reduce our canvass to single-reefed topsails. While the men were aloft reefing, the three proas came up under our stern, and a number of natives came on board; but they brought nothing for barter, except native fish-hooks. They appeared to be labouring under great excitement, and were making a prodigious clamour. As soon as the topsails were set, I backed the main-yard; and gave orders to get the whale-boat out to sound the passage through the reef, before attempting to go in. While the men were clearing away the boat, I observed the natives stealing everything they could lay hold of; such as the binnacle-lamp, steering-compasses, gun-rammers and sponges, and handspikes. Having observed several of the natives on deck to have large knives concealed under their dress, I gave orders to hold on the boat; and seeing the men in the proas passing paddles, clubs, and other offensive weapons to those on deck—which till now they had kept concealed in a small house which they had on the platform of each proa—I thought it was time to get some of our people under arms; and therefore ordered five men to bring their muskets up. While they were doing so, the natives broke the outriggers off six new canoes which I had hanging round the brig's stern; and, also, the awning rails; with which they armed themselves; and immediately gave a horrible war-whoop, and rushed on the ship's company, whom they drove off the deck. They knocked down the five men who were armed before they had time to fire their muskets, and immediately disarmed them. The conchs sounded a charge

from the proas at the same time ; and a *woman*, whom they had in one of the proas, was seen standing on the platform at this time waving tappa, and shouting apparently to encourage them. The whole of our crew, forty-five in number, were driven out on the jibboom, with the exception of myself, the gunner, and carpenter, who jumped down the companion-hatch, and fortunately got possession of the arms. We commenced firing on them from below ; and after a few were shot, the crew rushed aft, and succeeded in gaining the half-deck-hatch, where they were supplied with arms and ammunition. We then rushed on deck, and after a few minutes desperate fighting, in which many of the natives were killed, succeeded in clearing the deck, and got possession of the ship. Some of these natives must have evidently been at sea, as they appeared to understand the management of a ship very well. The moment they got possession of the deck, they put the helm up, and kept the brig away, right for the reef, with the intention of running her on shore. During the fight, the beach was lined with spectators. We had four men dangerously wounded, and one slightly. We found four muskets broken, and three missing, which must have been carried off by the natives. There were only two dead bodies found on deck ; the others, as they fell, were thrown overboard by their countrymen. The proas immediately made sail for the shore ; and we stood off to sea, after having *saluted* them with a few discharges of round and grape.

This act of treachery surpasses any thing of the kind I ever witnessed ; and makes me think that they must either have succeeded in capturing a ship on some former

occasion, or been prompted by some renegade white men living amongst them; which is not an uncommon occurrence among these islands.

I have no doubt that the drubbing we gave them will make them more careful in attacking another ship. They were a fine-looking race of men, tall and muscular. Their dress consisted of a bushy grass petticoat, dyed red, and reaching to the knee; under which they had their large Spanish knives concealed. The woman they had in the proa, was very decently clad, with a wrapper of native cloth, which reached from the waist down to her ancles. The population of this group must amount to some thousands. Their proas were something similar in shape to the flying proa of the Ladrone Islands; and each had a very large triangular sail.

THE CAROLINE ISLANDS.

STRONG'S ISLAND.

STRONG'S ISLAND, in lat. $5^{\circ} 21' 30''$ N., long. $163^{\circ} 0' 42'$ E., is about sixty miles in circumference. It is of volcanic formation, moderately elevated, and may be seen thirty miles in clear weather. The island is surrounded by a coral reef, between which and the main are small passages for canoes. It is possessed of two good harbours; the one on the east side is formed by a small island situated on the margin of the reef, on which the king resides: this is the harbour usually resorted to by American whalers. The other is on the west side of the island, and is formed by the mainland. Both these harbours are safe; and ships touching at either can obtain abundant supplies of wood and water. A good supply of yams and fowls can also be obtained from the natives. Two vessels were cut off at this island some years ago; but of late the natives have got the name of being friendly and hospitable. Strangers, however, should not allow too many of them on deck; and have their boats armed when wooding and watering. This island is very fertile; it produces bread-fruit in abundance; and it is clothed with many species of fine timber from the shore to its summits. Yams are extensively cultivated; but they do not grow to a large size. It is well inhabited by a race

similar in complexion, form of government, manners and customs, &c., to that of the natives of Bornabi, New Carolines.

MAC ASKILL'S ISLANDS.

MAC ASKILL'S ISLANDS, situated in lat. $6^{\circ} 13' 30''$ N., long. $160^{\circ} 48'$ E., are of small extent, covered with cocoa-nut trees, of coral formation, and connected by coral reefs, forming a lagoon inside, with a good ship passage through the reef on the west side leading into it. These islands are very low, and can only be seen about thirteen miles from a ship's deck. The group is about fifteen miles in circumference, and is well inhabited by a light-complexioned race, who should not be trusted, no matter how friendly they may appear. They live chiefly on cocoa-nuts and fish. The reefs produce biche de mer; but not in any quantity.

THE WELLINGTON ISLES.

THE WELLINGTON ISLES are situated in lat. $6^{\circ} 39' 40''$ N., long. $159^{\circ} 49'$ E. They are similar in size and formation to Mac Askill's Isles; and form a small group of low islands, covered with cocoa-nut trees; and connected by coral reefs, forming a lagoon inside, with a ship passage on the north-west side, leading to the lagoon. This group is thickly peopled by a light copper-coloured race, who are not to be trusted. They attacked a whaler some years ago, while running in the passage leading to the lagoon, and nearly succeeded in getting her on shore; therefore strangers cannot be too much on their guard. The reefs produce biche de mer; and a good supply of cocoa-nuts may be obtained for trifles.

MUSGRAVE'S ISLETS, said to exist in lat. $6^{\circ} 15'$ N., long. $159^{\circ} 15'$ E., have not been seen by me. I have several times passed near the position assigned to them in the charts, without seeing any appearance of land. I think their existence may be considered doubtful; for, if they did exist, it is probable the natives of Bornabi would know something about them, which they do not.

THE ISLAND OF BORNABI.

THE ISLAND OF BORNABI, is nearly eighty miles in circumference. The land is high, of volcanic formation, and may be seen in clear weather, forty miles from a ship's deck. It is surrounded by coral reefs, between which and the main land, are many islands. Some of these are small, and of coral formation; situated near the margin of the reefs, elevated a few feet only above the water, and covered chiefly with cocoa-nut trees. Others are of a larger size, moderately elevated, thickly wooded, and inhabited.

The island of Bornabi is possessed of several good harbours, the two principal of which are named Mata-lanien, and Roan Kiddi. The former is situated on the north-east side of the island, and the other on the south side. Both these harbours are safe, and resorted to by whalers; but from December until April, the preference is always given to the south harbour, on account of the strong N.E. winds which prevail during these months, and which render it impracticable for vessels to beat out of the one on the north-east side of the island. The other harbours are situated as follows:—

One at Lord, on the east side, which though small, has lately been resorted to by American whalers. The next is at Joquoits: this harbour was visited by me in the brig *Naiad*, in December, 1844, and I remained there nearly two months, collecting biche de mer. From De-

ember to April, the anchorage is safe, but it would not be prudent to anchor here during the other months, especially in September and October, when strong westerly winds frequently prevail. The water is very deep; I was obliged to anchor in thirty fathoms, muddy bottom, about four hundred and fifty yards from the shore, and under the high perpendicular cliff which terminates the island of Joquoits to the westward. I would by no means recommend this harbour to whalers, as a ship could not fetch the anchorage without tacking, unless the trade wind hangs far to the northward; and a large vessel would hardly have room to make a board, unless well inside.

There is another opening in the reef, near the island of Mant, on the north-north-west part of the island, which leads to a good harbour inside; but this place has never been resorted to by any whaler. There are several other passages through the reefs, with anchorage inside, but they offer no inducement for vessels to visit them.

The harbour of Roan Kiddi is situated in lat. $6^{\circ} 48'$ N., long. $158^{\circ} 14'$ E., This longitude may be considered nearly correct, being the mean of many chronometrical admeasurements from Macao and Manila.

A vessel bound to this harbour from the eastward, from December till April, should endeavour to get into the latitude of the island as soon as possible, after passing the Wellington Isles, and continue running to the westward on the same parallel of latitude, until the island is sighted, as strong westerly currents prevail at times during these months, with much hazy weather; and a stranger would be liable to get set past the island, if a

proper allowance were not made for the current. After making the land, continue steering to the westward, until the reef is visible from the deck; at which time, if the weather is moderate, it is presumed a pilot will be alongside. Should no pilot, however, make his appearance, the entrance to Roan Kiddi Harbour may be found by attending to the following directions:—

Stand boldly in, until within one quarter of a milé of the reef, then steer to the south-westward, keeping along the edge of the reef at about the same distance off. When the centre of Bornabi bears about N.W., the vessel will be abreast of two or three small islets, situated on the margin of the reef, which will then be found to trend more to the westward; and shortly after passing these islets, the course along the reef will be W. by S. Two small islands will then be seen ahead, or a little on the starboard bow, which are called by the natives Nahlap; they bound the entrance to the harbour on the west side; and a sand-bank with a few bushes on it, situated on the edge of the reef, and bearing about E. by N. from Nahlap, distant half a mile, forms the eastern boundary of the channel; the entrance to the harbour being between Nahlap and the sand-bank, which forms a deep bight. On passing the sand-bank give it a berth of about a cable's length, then haul more up, and keep the reef on the starboard hand close aboard on running in. The channel now becomes contracted by sunken rocks, which must be left on the port hand. The course to pass between these rocks and the starboard reef is about N.W. by W. The narrowest part of the passage is between these rocks and the starboard reef, the channel

at that place for about two hundred yards being only forty fathoms wide. This forms the entrance to the basin or harbour, and a vessel must now haul her wind, and steer about north, which is the mid-channel course from the inner part of the narrows to the anchorage, near the head of the basin. The best anchorage is in 7 or 8 fathoms muddy bottom, where a ship will lie completely land-locked, and perfectly safe from all winds.

A stranger before attempting to enter this harbour, and to make sure work of it, should send a boat in, and place buoys on the rocks, and east side of the channel; but if the weather is clear, and the sun not *ahead*, a careful officer at the mast-head, can see all dangers from aloft, and avoid them. The best time to enter this harbour is on the first of the flood, as, should a vessel unfortunately get on shore, through a sudden shift of wind, while passing the narrows, she will stand a much better chance of getting off without injury, than at any other time.

Roan Kiddi River, is about a quarter of a mile from the anchorage, from whence a plentiful supply of good fresh water can always be procured, and an abundance of firewood can be easily obtained on the low land at the mouth of the river. It is high water at this place, on full and change of the moon, at four hours, rise and fall, five and a half feet.

The anchorage at Matalanien Harbour is situated in long. 158° 20' E., and is perfectly safe and sheltered from all winds. This harbour has a wide entrance on the north side of the island of Nah, and the only hidden

danger to be avoided when running in, is a sunken rock, some distance within the entrance, which lies nearly in mid-channel. The sea sometimes breaks on it; but it can always be avoided by keeping the starboard side of the channel close aboard. The barrier reef at this place, extends a long distance from the mainland, and between which, are many coral flats, with deep water channels amongst them in some places. The harbour is formed by the main land, and is similar, in shape, to a horse-shoe; and the channel through the reefs, which leads to it, runs nearly in a direct line from the entrance in the barrier reef, to the heads of the harbour; and lies in a S.W. and N.E. direction.

This harbour may be easily known to vessels standing in from sea, by a remarkable peaked hill, resembling a spire or sugar-loaf, which is situated on the north shore, within the harbour. An abundant supply of firewood, and excellent fresh water, can always be obtained at this place. Strong N.E. winds prevail from December till April, with much hazy weather, and frequent squalls, attended with rain. During these months, strong westerly currents are generally experienced. From March to August, the winds are generally light and variable, but chiefly from the eastward, with much fine weather. In September, October, and November, strong westerly winds, with severe squalls and rain, may be expected; and strong easterly currents are frequently found during these months. On the whole the climate must be considered very moist, as scarcely a day passes without rain, especially in the winter months. These continual showers

produce rapid vegetation, and keep up a constant run of fresh water from the mountains, the chasms, and rivulets, between the hills.

THE ANT ISLANDS, marked on the charts Frazer's Island, lie in a S.W. direction from Roan Kiddi Harbour, and are distant from it about twelve miles. They form a group of four low coral islands, covered with cocoa-nut and bread-fruit trees, and connected by a coral reef, forming a lagoon inside, with a passage leading into it, between the two large islands on the east side of the group. This group is eight or ten miles in length, in a N.E. and S.W. direction; and seven miles in breadth, in a N.W. and S.E. direction. These islands belong to the chiefs of Roan Kiddi. They have no permanent inhabitants; but are resorted to from May till September for the hawk's-bill-turtle fishery. They are also visited at other times to procure supplies of cocoa-nuts and bread-fruit. The N.E. part of this group is situated in lat. $6^{\circ} 42' N.$, long. $158^{\circ} 3' E.$

PAKEEN is the only other group near the Island of Bornabi. It bears about west from Joquoits, distant twenty-two miles; and its centre is situated in lat. $7^{\circ} 10' N.$, long. $157^{\circ} 43' E.$ It is composed of five small coral islands, surrounded by a coral reef, forming a lagoon inside, into which there is no passage through the reef. The group is about five miles in length from east to west, and about three miles in breadth from north to south. The islands are very low, and produce abundance of cocoa-nuts and bread-fruit; and the lagoon plenty of

excellent fish, to supply the wants of the inhabitants. The westernmost island is inhabited by a Bornabi chief, his family and servants, in all about thirty souls: and this chief claims sovereignty over the whole group.

This place is celebrated for its canoe sails, which are manufactured from the leaves of the pandanus tree, and are eagerly sought after by the natives of Bornabi. Ships touching here, can generally procure a good supply of cocoa-nuts and fowls. In fine weather the natives frequently visit Bornabi in their canoes, for the purpose of obtaining tobacco, and other foreign commodities.

The Island of Bornabi is mountainous in the centre, and more or less hilly from the mountains to the shore throughout. The whole island is thickly wooded, and produces many varieties of good timber, fit for house, ship-building, and other purposes. The shores are fronted with mangrove trees, growing in the salt water, which form an impenetrable barrier to boats landing, except in the rivers, and other small canals or channels, formed amongst them by nature. Many of these are so narrow as scarcely to admit of oars being used; they answer every purpose, however, as all the houses situated near the shore, have generally one of these channels leading to them.

Near Matalanien Harbour, are some interesting ruins, which are, however, involved in obscurity; the oldest inhabitants being ignorant of their origin, and have no tradition bearing any reference to their history. That a fortified town once stood upon this spot, and not built by savages, cannot be doubted, the style of the ruins giving strong proofs of civilisation. Some of the stones measure

eight to ten feet in length, are hexagonal, and have, evidently, been brought thither from some civilised country, there being no stones on the island similar to them. Streets are formed in several places, and the whole town appears to have been a succession of fortified houses. Several artificial caves were also discovered within the fortifications.

This town was doubtless, at one time, the stronghold of pirates, and as the natives can give no account of it, it seems probable that it was built by Spanish buccaneers, some two or three centuries ago. This supposition is confirmed by the fact, that some ten or twelve years ago, a small brass cannon was found on one of the mountains, and taken away by H.M.S. *Larne*. Several clear places are also to be seen a little inland, at different parts of the island; some of which are many acres in extent, clear of timber, and perfectly level. Upon one of these plains, called K-par, near Roan Kiddi Harbour, (and which I have frequently visited,) is a large mound, about twenty feet wide, eight feet high, and a quarter of a mile in length. This must, evidently, have been thrown up for defence: or, as a burial place for the dead, after some great battle.

Similar ruins are to be found at Strong's Island, of which the natives can give no account.

The soil is composed of a rich red and black loam, and would, if properly cultivated, produce every variety of tropical fruits and esculent roots; together with coffee, arrow-root, and sugar-cane. The woods throughout the island are very thick, and often composed of large and fine trees; among them are tree-ferns, banyan, pandanus,

sassafras, and several species of palms. The trees do not branch out until near the top; the trunks of many of them are covered with climbing plants and vines; and the lower part of the trunks enveloped with ferns, of which there are many varieties. Many beautiful sweet-scented white and yellow flowers are to be found. These are much esteemed by the natives, and are strung into wreaths, which both sexes wear round their hair at feasts and on other occasions. These wreaths are exceedingly handsome.

The bread-fruit tree is very abundant, and grows here to a large size. The cocoa-nut and wild orange are also found in great numbers. A small species of reed or cane is very common, and is used for making floors and side wicker-work for the houses. Wild ginger and arrow-root also abound. The cultivated plants and trees are, bread-fruit, of which they have many varieties; cocoa-nut, beet-root, tarro, bananas, arrow-root, and sugar-cane; the latter is only used for chewing; also, yams, sweet potatoes, pumpkins, tobacco, in small quantities; and kava (*piper mythisticum*). The latter is cultivated to a large extent throughout the island, and daily used at their feasts. They pay very little attention to the cultivation of arrow-root; yet, what I have seen made, appeared to be of a very superior quality.

Yams are plentiful all over the island; but whale ships get their supplies chiefly from the north side, where they are cultivated to a much greater extent than at any other place: they are, however, of rather a small size, and of an indifferent quality. The cultivated ground does not extend far from the coasts, near which all the villages are

situated. There are no inhabitants inland, and few of the natives have ever visited the centre of the island. No traces are to be found of any native quadruped, except rats, which are very abundant. The flying-fox, or vampire-bat, is also plentiful, and very destructive to the bread-fruit.

Wild pigeons abound all over the island. They appear to be in best condition and most plentiful from December till April. A vessel recruiting here, may obtain a daily supply of them for all hands by giving a couple of native boys fowling pieces, or muskets, with ammunition. These youths are excellent shots, and, in half a day, will procure a sufficiency for a whole ship's company. No fear need be entertained of their stealing the fowling pieces; as I have never heard an instance of it during my many visits to this island. A stick of tobacco each, will sufficiently remunerate them for their labour; and numbers will be found daily volunteering their services. Poultry is plentiful all over the island. The usual price of one dozen fowls is twenty-four sticks of negro-head tobacco, or four yards of cheap calico. Yams can be purchased from the natives for ten sticks of tobacco per hundred; bread-fruit, ten sticks per hundred; cocoa-nuts, the same; bananas, two sticks per bunch; and all other productions of the island at an equally low rate. Fish are taken on the reefs in great abundance and variety. Mulletts are very numerous, and are frequently seen leaping from the water in immense shoals. The small fish are chiefly caught in hand nets, and the others in various other modes.

These islands furnish abundant supplies for the re-

freshment of whalers ; but, as yet, there are few articles which can be made available in commerce. The islands produce about 500 lbs. of tortoise-shell annually ; the whole of which is purchased from the natives, at a very low rate, by the Europeans living on the island, and sold by them to whale ships at an advance of 500 per cent ! They take their payment chiefly in spirits, tobacco, muskets, and gunpowder. The introduction of these articles, and their abuse by the vagabonds on shore, have tended much to demoralize the natives.

This is the only article of merchandize which can be at present procured (except *biche de mer*) beyond the immediate wants of the visitors. Ginger, arrow-root, sassafras, coffee, sugar, and many species of excellent timber, might, however, be easily added to the list of exports.

Whalers procure annually about fifty tons of yams, and abundance of bananas, bread-fruit, and poultry. Pigs are only to be obtained from the Europeans. The natives reared them formerly ; but, through being too lazy to fence in their plantations, they ultimately killed them all, and substituted dogs as an article of diet instead.

The description of goods most sought after by the natives, as returns for what these islands furnish, are, red serge or camlets, of which they are passionately fond ; muskets, gunpowder, lead, flints, cartouch-boxes, cutlasses, broad axes, tomahawks, fish-hooks, butcher's knives, adzes, chisels, plane-irons, hand-saws, gouges, gimblets, bullet-moulds, calico, drill, gaudy cotton handkerchiefs, negro-head and Cavendish tobacco, pipes, files,

serge and cotton shirts, trousers, small beads of all colours, Jew's-harps, straw-hats, blankets, iron-pots assorted, small boxes or chests, with locks and hinges, fowling pieces and small shot, needles and thread, scissors, &c.

The complexion of these natives is of a light copper-colour. The average height of the men is about five feet eight inches, and the majority of them would be considered small. The women are much smaller in proportion than the men, with delicate features, and slight figures. Many of the chiefs' sons are exceedingly well formed; they are also of a much lighter complexion than the generality of the natives, owing to their not being so much exposed to the weather; and would be considered fine-looking men in any part of the world. Their features are, in general, well formed. The nose is slightly aquiline, but a little broad at the base; the mouth rather large, with full lips, and beautiful white teeth. The lobes of the ears are perforated in both sexes; but are seldom distended to any size.

Both sexes wear handsome ornaments, composed of small beads, &c., attached to the ears. They have, also, handsome necklaces made of the same materials. Both men and women have beautiful black hair, which they take no little pains in dressing with a variety of perfumes, mixed with cocoa-nut oil; and the chiefs and their families ornament their heads with beautiful wreaths of sweet-scented flowers. They also anoint their bodies (especially the females) with turmeric, in order to give them a whiter appearance; which it undoubtedly does. They consider that this adds much to their beauty.

The men wear neither whiskers nor beard; they extract the hairs, as soon as they make their appearance, by means of tweezers, made either of a small piece of tortoise-shell, bent double; or a pair of small cockle-shells. The generality of the women are handsome; but, as they marry at an early age, they soon lose all claim to beauty. The complexion of the young girls is much lighter than that of the men, and similar to a South American brunette. This is owing to the use of turmeric, before alluded to; and to their wearing an upper article of dress, formed by a cotton handkerchief, as a shelter from the sun; which covers their breasts and shoulders, and which has a slit in the centre, to allow a passage for the head. Both sexes, the females, particularly, are very handsomely tattooed.

Many of these natives, especially the lower classes and fishermen, have their skins disfigured, in a singular manner, by a sort of scurfy disease, similar to the ringworm, or rather to a person whose skin was peeling off from the effects of the sun. They do not appear to experience any inconvenience from this complaint, and for which I cannot account, unless it be attributable to raw fish, which they eat in large quantities. This disease prevails more or less, over all the islands near the equator; and I have also met with it at the Pallou Islands. I had a Bornarbi boy at sea with me for four months, whose skin was completely covered with this disease; but who lost all traces of it after living a short time on salt provisions,

With regard to the general character of this people, the most favourable feature is the affection which both

sexes bear towards their offspring, and the respect which is paid to age; two qualities in which most of the other islanders I have visited are sadly deficient. They are, also, good-humoured, desirous of pleasing, and exceedingly hospitable; as a proof of which, I may mention, that upon every occasion of my visiting the king, or a chief of high rank, I was treated with the most marked distinction; a feast was prepared for me, and on one occasion a hundred roots of kava were laid at my feet, together with heaps of yams, bread-fruit, bananas, and cocoa-nuts. As a shade upon this picture, it must be admitted that they are indolent, covetous, and deceitful; and but little confidence can be placed in their professions. I must not forget, however, that I am writing of savages; and so much that is praiseworthy appeared in their conduct, and such capabilities of improvement by civilisation, as must rank them far above all other savages with whom I have had intercourse.

During the whole period of my stay on this island, and subsequent visits, I never experienced an instance of theft on their part, unless when instigated so to do by the white reprobates who are domesticated with them. In short, unless when prompted by these vagabonds, I have found them strictly honest in their dealings, paying me punctually for any goods I may have advanced them. Owing, however, to the influence which the Europeans have obtained over the natives, by speaking their language fluently; by teaching them to distil spirits from the cocoa-nut toddy; and assimilating themselves, as far as possible, to their habits, the character of the latter has become greatly deteriorated. They have already

become adepts in lying; and will soon—unless these fellows be removed from the island—become habituated to every species of vice and immorality.

The Island of Bornabi is divided into five tribes, independent of each other, and each having a sovereign of its own. These tribes are named as follows :—

ROAN KIDDI, or WONAH; MATALANIEN; NUT; JOQUOITS; and AWACK. The two first being more powerful and of much greater extent than the others. Each king has his prime minister, whose power nearly equals that of the sovereign. His title is NANNIKAN. Next in rank to the king are the nobles, whose titles are as follows :—

TALK; WAJY; NANABY; NOACH; SHOU SHABERT; GRO-EN-WANE; and many others; being chiefs of inferior rank, who are not of noble birth; but who have been made chiefs and obtained land by acts of bravery, or the favour of the nobles. On the demise of the sovereign, the noble who holds the rank of Talk, succeeds to the throne, and the other chiefs rise a step. The prime minister holds office either for life or during the king's pleasure; and, although possessed of much power, is inferior in rank to the nobles. The government is carried on in the most simple form; the king contenting himself with receiving the tribute due to him, and rarely interfering in the administration of affairs, unless in matters of serious importance. Each chief has power over his own dependents, and can punish them for slight offences; but in cases of importance, the decision is made, and the punishment ordered, in council.

There is in every village a large council-house, with

a raised platform in the centre, for the accommodation of the chiefs, when discussing the affairs of the tribe. These meetings are always attended with feasting, and kava drinking, at the expense of the chief in whose village the meeting is held. Along each side of the house each family of rank has a sleeping berth, formed by wicker-work bulkheads; something similar to the state rooms of a vessel's poop. The space from the platform to the end of the house, is occupied by the slaves or servants, who are busily employed, during these meetings, in preparing kava and food for the visitors.

When a meeting is deemed necessary, messengers are sent to the different chiefs to request their attendance. This, in cases of emergency, is done by blowing conchs. The chiefs having assembled, the object of the meeting is laid before them by the king, or head chief, and every one is at liberty to give his opinion. These discussions are, at times, very animated, especially when they have indulged freely in kava; and on several of these occasions, I have witnessed violent quarrels between different speakers, which were only prevented from terminating in blows by the interference of the other chiefs. The opinion of the majority upon the subject under consideration having been ascertained, the discussion is terminated.

On the death of a chief, the king has power to give his land to whoever he pleases. He generally, however, bestows it upon his sons; or, failing them, to the chief next in rank to the deceased.

The power possessed by each king over his dependents,—though rarely taken advantage of,—is, in every

respect, unlimited; the lives and property of his subjects being completely at his disposal. To shed blood within the precincts of the palace, is certain death; and the most abject homage is paid to him by all classes, not even the nobles being allowed to stand upright in his presence.

As soon as the bread-fruit season sets in, the nobles send the first-fruits as a present to the king; and, whenever a chief has a new turtle or fishing net made, the produce of his fishery must be sent to the king for a certain number of days, before he can appropriate any of the fish to his own use. Another mark of respect shown to the king, as well as by all classes of inferior rank to their superiors, is, that the former on meeting the latter, in their canoes, invariably sit down until they have passed, and present the side of the canoe opposite the out-rigger, towards them when passing, in case they should wish to board them.

With regard to the population of Bornabi, although I have visited all parts of the island, I have had no correct means of ascertaining the number; but from personal observation, I reckon it to be about seven or eight thousand souls. In 1846, there were upwards of sixty Europeans residing on the island, chiefly bad characters; being composed of runaway convicts and sailors.

The canoes of this island are hollowed out of a large tree, and are very neatly made. The out-rigger is attached to the canoe by many projecting pieces of light wood, neatly squared and painted. They have a platform in the centre for the chiefs to sit on. These

canoes are painted red, look exceedingly handsome, and are furnished with a mast and triangular sail. They sail very fast, and carry from four to ten men.

The houses of these natives are decidedly better constructed than any I have hitherto met with at the islands. They all form an oblong square, and are built as follows :—

A foundation of stone work is raised to the height of from three to six feet above the ground, for the frame of the house to rest upon. In the centre of this, a space of about four feet square, and two in depth, is left for a fire-place; and the remainder of the floor is covered with a species of wicker-work, made of small cane, or reeds, neatly seized together. The sides are about four feet high, and are also covered in with this wicker-work, having several open spaces left for windows, and for which they have shutters made of the same materials. The whole frame of the house is made of squared timber, and the uprights are all morticed into the wall-plates. The rafters are formed of small straight rickers, about two feet apart, which reach from the ridge-pole to the wall plates on each side, and are seized to both with small senit. The thatch is made of pandanus leaves, sewed to a reed, which forms a long narrow mat, about six feet in length, by one in breadth. In thatching, they commence at the eaves, placing the mats lengthways, keeping each mat about an inch above the other, and seizing them to the rafters as they proceed. When they have reached the ridge, they commence again at the eaves with another length of mats, over-

lapping the ends where the two lengths join, and keeping each mat about an inch above the other as before mentioned, and so on until the thatching is completed.

A house so constructed, will last for many years. This style of building is peculiarly adapted to the climate; the interstices between the canes forming the sides, admit a free current of air, and render these houses both cool and refreshing; and, although devoid of ornament, have a neat and even elegant appearance. They are exceedingly clean and comfortable dwellings, even for an European to live in.

Their manufactures consist of loaches or sleeping mats, belts, dresses, neck and head ornaments, baskets, and canoe sails; also blankets or bed-covers, and small coir rope or senit. The loaches are made principally at Joquoits, Nut, and Awack, and are manufactured of pandanus leaves, sewed together. They are about six feet in length and of various breadths; the end of the mat rolled up forms a pillow. Their blanket or bed-cover is made of tappa, and thrumbed with some soft substance, similar to flax. Belts are wove in hand looms, and are made of fibres of the banana tree, dyed red and yellow; they form many variegated figures, and are exceedingly handsome. They are generally about six feet in length, and five or six inches in breadth. The dress of the males is made of the young leaves of the cocoa-nut, bleached, and slit into narrow strips, and fastened at one end with a string; it is about two feet in depth, and reaches from the hip to the knee. A man when well dressed, has about six of these tied

round him. This dress is light and elegant, and readily yields to any motion of the body. The belts also form a part of the men's dress; they are worn similar to the wrapper of the other islanders, and the upper edge of the belt reaches above the navel.

The women's dress consists of the likou, being a fathom of calico, wrapped round the loins, tucked in at one side, and reaching to the knee. They always dye the white calico with turmeric, which gives it a yellow appearance. Their upper dress is generally composed of a handkerchief as before described; except on gala days, when those who can afford it, substitute for the above, red cloth dresses, nicely trimmed with white calico. Both sexes are very fond of ornamenting themselves. They manufacture beautiful head bands, of various coloured beads; also necklaces, of the same description, intermixed with small round beads, made of shell, and cocoa-nut wood, about the size of a small shirt button or mould. This and their ear ornaments are decorated with threads of red cloth, made up into tassels.

The food of the natives consists of bread-fruit, yams, wild tarro, cocoa-nuts, bananas, sugar-cane, dogs, pigeons, turtle, fish, biche de mer, which they eat raw; and many species of shell-fish. Of the bread-fruit tree, they have various kinds, distinguished by fruits of different sizes, the largest of which is the sweetest and most agreeable to the taste. Nature seems to have been very bountiful in her supply of this fruit, for the different varieties follow each other throughout the year. They have a

peculiar method of preserving it, of which the following description may give some idea:—

When the bread-fruit is ripe, it is prepared by paring off the outer rind, and cutting it up into small pieces; holes are then dug in the ground to the depth of three feet; these are thickly lined with banana leaves, in order to prevent the water from penetrating. They are then filled, to within a few inches of the top, with the sliced bread-fruit, thatched over with the same description of leaves, and covered with stones to press it down. This renders the holes both air and water tight; after a while fermentation takes place, and it subsides into a mass, similar to the consistency of new cheese.

Their chief reason for preserving the bread-fruit in this manner, is to provide against famine, as they have a tradition that a violent hurricane took place at the island about a century ago, which blew the trees down, and caused a great scarcity of food. It is said that it will keep in these holes for several years; and although it emits a sour and most offensive odour when taken out, the natives consider it an agreeable and nutritious article of diet, equally palatable as when in its fresh state. It is principally used at their feasts, and is consumed in large quantities. When taken out of the pits, it is well kneaded, wrapped up in banana leaves, and baked in ovens of hot stones. These ovens are prepared by heating a quantity of small stones, and placing a layer of them on the ground; on which the food is laid, having previously been well wrapped up, in clean banana and wild tarro leaves, to keep it clean, and pre-

vent it from burning. The remainder of the hot stones, are laid over it, and the whole closely covered up with leaves, mats, &c., to prevent the steam from escaping. In a couple of hours the things will be sufficiently cooked; and a person unacquainted with this South Sea mode of cooking, would be surprised to find the food so well done. I consider this to be the best mode of cooking yams and bread-fruit; and much superior to our plan of baking and boiling them.

These natives cultivate yams to a considerable extent throughout the island; but they are so lazy, that they merely make a hole in the ground sufficiently large to admit the seed; and do not even loosen the earth around it, which prevents the yam from growing to any size. They generally have them planted near trees; and have strings fastened to the branches for the vines to entwine round.

Bread-fruit being the chief food of these natives, they have, from the little time occupied in cultivating their vegetable productions, a great deal of leisure, of which feasting occupies the greater part. Their feasts generally claim priority to every thing else. The king makes an annual visit to every village in the tribe, at which time the greatest festivities take place; the chiefs then vieing with each other who shall entertain him the best. Immense quantities of bread-fruit and yams are cooked on these occasions; and kava drinking is also carried to excess. The latter appears to act on them similar to opium, but without its bad effects. These festivities generally last for two days at each village; but feasting on a smaller scale is of daily occurrence. No

chief visits another without a feast being prepared for the reception of the guest; which the visitor of course returns, whenever his friend may return the compliment.

The only musical instrument they have, is a small flute, made of bamboo: the sound is produced by inserting one end in the nostril—breathing through it gently, and varying the notes by the fingers. The Bornabi drum is made of a piece of wood hollowed out, and covered over the ends with shark's skin, and is similar in shape to an hour-glass: they beat it with the fingers of the right hand, the drum resting on the left knee. It sounds something similar to the tom-tom of the Hindoos. The drummer sits crosslegged, and accompanies it with singing.

Their dances are by no means indecorous, and are unaccompanied by those lascivious gestures generally witnessed at other islands. The dancers consist of the unmarried men and girls, who stand in a row on a long plank. They keep time with their feet to the song, and accompany it with graceful movements of the arms and body. At times the arms are thrown out from the body, when they give a rapid quivering motion to the fingers, and clap their hands together. Every movement is made in perfect unison, and at the same moment, by the whole party.

The tuttooing of these natives is performed by old women, who make it a regular profession. The age at which it is performed, is from ten to twelve in both sexes. The colouring matter is obtained from the kernel of some nut; and the operation is performed by an instrument made of bone, similar to the teeth of a small

comb, which is made to enter the skin by a slight blow of a stick. Both sexes are tattooed from the loins to the ankles, and from the elbows to the knuckles.

The natives of Bornabi are very regular in their habits. They rise at daybreak, bathe in fresh water, then take their morning meal, and afterwards anoint their bodies with turmeric and cocoa-nut oil. They then proceed to their occupations for the day, and continue at them until about noon, when they return home, again bathe, and take another meal. The remainder of the day is either spent in feasting or visiting. At sunset they take their evening meal, and wash themselves for the third time. They have no torches, or any other means of lighting their houses; and, unless when dancing or fishing, retire early to rest.

Much respect and attention is awarded to the females at this island; and they are not made to do any work but what rightfully belongs to them. All out door labour is chiefly performed by the men, whose employment consists in building houses and canoes, planting yams, fishing, and bringing home the produce of their plantations; also planting kava, and cooking. The women seldom assist at any out door employment, except it may be fishing and weeding the ground: but employ their time chiefly in manufacturing head-dresses, weaving belts, sewing mats, making hand-baskets, and taking care of the house and children. The work of both sexes is, however, very light, and much of their time is passed in idleness.

Chastity is not regarded as a virtue among these natives, nor is it considered as any recommendation in the

choice of a wife. Promiscuous intercourse before marriage is quite common; and is practised without the least feeling of shame, by either the parties themselves, or their relations; and a father or brother will openly offer his daughter or sister for prostitution, on board any vessel which may touch at the island. But after marriage, the women are obliged to be more guarded in their conduct; as a want of duty in this respect would be severely punished by the husband. The introduction of European *likous'* tobacco, Jews'-harps, and beads, have no little influence in perpetuating licentiousness among the females, to whom foreign finery is a great temptation.

These natives, especially the females, are exceedingly given to prattling; or have rather a tattling disposition; for they cannot keep even their own secrets; and a crime is divulged nearly as soon as committed.

The courtesies of life with these people are few, and are usually confined to the simple inquiry on meeting of, "Where are you going?"—or, "Where do you come from?" They do not appear to have any words in their language for—"How do you do?"—or, "Good bye;" but merely say when parting, "I am going." "Are you going to stop?" On meeting a chief, the natives, if of lower rank, either stoop, or squat down—according to his rank—until he passes.

They have pretty shades for the face, made of cocoanut leaves, which encircle, and project from, without covering the head. This head-dress is chiefly worn by the fishermen, to keep the sun off their face.

With regard to their marriages, I never had an opportunity of witnessing one, and know little respecting the

ceremony; but I have been told that when a native wishes to get a wife, he makes the girl's father a present, and that his suit is considered as accepted if he receives it. A feast is then prepared, and, on its termination, the bridegroom takes his wife home. In the event of her death, the widower must marry her sister, if she has any; and on the death of the husband, his brother, if he has one, becomes his widow's husband. First cousins are not allowed to marry at this island. A man is at liberty to put his wife away, and marry another, on certain conditions; but the woman cannot leave her husband without his consent, unless she is of higher rank. In that case she can do as she pleases. The chiefs generally have a plurality of wives, and polygamy is allowed to any extent, and only limited by the ability of the person to support them.

Their funeral ceremonies appear to have undergone some change since their intercourse with Europeans. Formerly the bodies of their dead were wrapped in mats, and kept in their houses for a considerable time; but, latterly, they have adopted our custom of burying them in the ground.

On the death of a chief, or any person of note, the male friends of the deceased ~~congregate together for a~~ certain number of days, and express their grief by loud and melancholy wailings during the day, and dancing by night. All the relations of the deceased cut their hair short as a token of mourning. ~~Whatever property may~~ have belonged to the deceased person, is carried off by those who can first obtain possession of it; and this cus-

tom is so universal, that things so obtained are considered lawful prizes.

The weapons of these islanders consist, chiefly, of muskets and spears. The spears are made of hard wood—about six feet in length, pointed with the tail-bone of the stingray, and when used are thrown by the hand; but there is scarcely a man of any note on the island who has not a musket, and many of the chiefs have three or four, with plenty of ammunition. I should suppose that the natives of Bornabi have fully fifteen hundred muskets amongst them. They have procured them chiefly from whalers, as payment for yams and tortoise-shell; and since their introduction, the tribes have seldom been at war. They are now well aware of the deadly effects of firearms, and live more harmoniously in consequence. The tribes of Matalanien and Awack, were at war, in the year, 1843, but the dread of firearms kept them generally out of musket reach, and they shortly afterwards made peace. It is only able bodied men who form the war party, and they act pretty honourably, as they seldom kill women or children. When one party is desirous of peace, some roots of kava are sent to the king of the other tribe, by some neutral person, which, if received, ends the war, and a succession of friendly visits are then interchanged betwixt the chiefs of the two tribes, attended with great feasting and kava drinking.

The kava is not chewed at this island, but the roots are pounded on a large stone, and, after being moistened with water, the juice is squeezed out into small cups,—made of cocoa-nut shells,—which are passed round by

the attendants to the chiefs. The first cup is presented to the highest chief, or chief priest if present, who mutters some prayer over it before drinking.

Their prayers are usually addressed to the spirit of some deceased chief, petitioning it to grant them success in fishing, an abundant crop of bread-fruit and yams; and praying for the arrival of ships, and a bountiful supply of the good things of this life. The priests pretend to foretell future events, and the people put much faith in their predictions. The natives believe that they get inspired by the spirit of some deceased chief; and that whatever they may say while labouring under the agitation into which they work themselves, is dictated by the spirit; and that such prophecies will be sure to come to pass. Should any of their predictions, however, not happen to correspond, they will cunningly pretend that some other spirit has interfered and prevented it.

The religion of these people is very simple. They have neither images nor temples, and, although they believe in a future state, they do not appear to have any religious observances. They believe in the immortality of the soul, and that their Elysium is surrounded by a wall, having a bottomless ditch around it. The gate is guarded by an *old woman*, whom the spirit has to encounter on jumping across the ditch, and who attempts to throw it into this dark abyss. Should it, however, master the woman, and gain an entrance through the gate, it is for ever happy; but should the woman succeed in throwing it into the ditch, it sinks into an abyss of eternal misery.

Their diseases when grown up appear to be but few,

except the cutaneous or scurfy disorder before alluded to, which prevails more or less all over the island, and affects the females as well as the men. This disease produces a most disgusting appearance; but it does not appear to affect the general health of those subject to it. The children are almost all subject to a disease in infancy, resembling the yaws, called *kench*; but it generally leaves them when about four or five years of age. The sores when healed leave marks on the skin, similar to those caused by vaccination. Declines are of frequent occurrence. Dysentery made its appearance at this island in 1843, and carried off a great number of the natives; and, in 1845, the influenza prevailed in some districts, but with no great violence.

These natives are not cannibals, nor ever have been, as far as I could ascertain; but look upon cannibalism with as much abhorrence as we do.

Bottomley's Group, and St. Augustine's Isles, of the charts, do not exist; Pakeen and the Ants being the only groups near the west side of Bornabi.

NUTECK OR RAVEN ISLANDS.

THE RAVEN ISLANDS are of coral formation, low, covered with cocoa-nut trees, and connected by coral reefs, forming a lagoon inside.

The group consists of four principal islands, and three islets, and is of a triangular form. The south side of the reef lies nearly east and west with an island on each extremity, and another about two and a half miles to the westward of the easternmost one. From the east and west islands, the reefs trend to the northward, coming to a point, on which the north island stands. The west island is the only inhabited one. I landed on it in 1846, and found four Englishmen and about twenty Bornabi natives, male and female, residing there. They rear pigs, which they sell to the whale ships. I have visited this group three different times, and make the west island in lat. $5^{\circ} 40' N.$, long. $157^{\circ} 14' E.$

BORDELAISE ISLAND.

BORDELAISE ISLAND is a small, low, coral island, covered with bushes and palm trees, and can only be seen about ten or twelve miles from a ship's deck. A dangerous reef projects from it to the south-east, fully fifteen miles, forming a lagoon inside. A Mr. Edward du Pernet, master of an Oahu schooner, (who gave me this information,) was wrecked on this reef in 1843, and remained on the island five months; during that time, they built a small craft, which carried them safe to Guam. His opinion was, that Jane's Meaburn's, and Bordelaise, were one and the same, and he was pretty sure no other island existed near it. Vessels passing should be particularly on their guard, as the island cannot be seen from the south-east part of the reef. Lieut. Raper places it in lat. $7^{\circ} 38' N.$, long. $155^{\circ} 20' E.$

A dangerous reef lies in lat. $8^{\circ} 10' N.$, long. $154^{\circ} 34' E.$, from the authority of Capt. Wishart of the *Countess of Minto*, see *Nautical Magazine*, for 1843, page 131.

Of San Raphael's Island I have no knowledge, Lieut. Raper places it in lat. $7^{\circ} 18' N.$, long. $153^{\circ} 54' E.$

D'Urville's Isles consist of three low, coral islets, covered with cocoa-nut trees, connected by a coral reef, forming a small lagoon inside, situated in lat. $7^{\circ} 5' N.$, long. $152^{\circ} 37' E.$

COOK'S GROUP.

THIS group consists of a number of low coral islands, covered with cocoa-nut trees, and connected by coral reefs, forming a lagoon inside, with a passage in the reef leading to it on the south side. These islands were discovered by a Captain Cook in 1825. Lieut. Raper classes them into two groups in his Table of Maritime Positions. The northern or Mourilleu Group extends E.N.E. and W.S.W. seven leagues. The N.E. island is situated in lat. $8^{\circ} 42' N.$, long. $152^{\circ} 26' E.$ The southern group is named Namolipifian, and lies N.W. and S.E. five leagues. The south or Namouyin islet, is situated in lat. $8^{\circ} 25' N.$, long. $151^{\circ} 49' E.$

HOGOLEU.

HOGOLEU is of great extent, the group being composed of five large islands, and a number of small ones, the whole surrounded by coral reefs, forming a very large lagoon inside. All the low islands are situated on or near the barrier reef, and are of coral formation; but, the five large and high islands are situated in the lagoon, near the south side of the group, and are of volcanic formation. Many good ship passages are to be found through the barrier reef, leading to the lagoon; and anchorage can be got within the reefs, or near the shore, at the large islands. Vessels entering this lagoon, or sailing through it amongst the islands, should have a careful officer at the mast-head, as it is studded with dangerous coral patches in many places, which can only be seen from aloft, and which have no soundings near them. These islands are thickly inhabited, and I reckon the population of the whole group to amount to fifteen or twenty thousand souls. The natives are of a light copper complexion, and are a cruel and treacherous race. The reefs abound with biche de mer of the first quality, but no vessel should visit this group for the purpose of collecting it, unless well manned and armed, as the natives are too lazy to work, and will be certain to attack any vessel which they may find in a defenceless state. Merchant ships passing near this group, should be particularly on their guard, and have no in-

tercourse with the natives; nor should strangers put the slightest confidence in the friendly professions of any of the Caroline Islanders. They are all more or less treacherous, with the exception of the inhabitants of Bornabi.

I visited this group in October, 1844, with two vessels, a brig and schooner, for the purpose of collecting biche de mer. The natives at first appeared very friendly, and assisted us to erect houses on shore for curing the slug. They managed so completely to take me off my guard, that I left the schooner to take charge of the station we had formed, and removed my brig to another village, intending to form another curing establishment; but the second morning after my departure, they attacked the schooner with an immense force, supposed to be not less than two thousand men. After a desperate engagement they managed to beat them off, but with a loss of six men killed, and five severely wounded. They lost their long boat, and had to slip, thereby losing an anchor and 75 fathoms of cable. My vessel was at anchor about five miles from the schooner, to windward of a high promontory, which prevented us from seeing or knowing anything about the attack, until the schooner hove in sight round the point with signals of distress flying. During the fight a few natives were quietly assisting some of my crew to fill water casks on shore, abreast of the vessel, so that I had not the slightest suspicion that anything was wrong. The moment the schooner hove in sight, they gave a shout, and disappeared in the bush, which made it appear evident that they knew all about it, and acted thus to take us

off our guard. We got underweigh immediately with the schooner in company, and anchored close to the enemy's town with springs on our cables, and commenced firing on it. We attempted to force a landing at the same time with our boats, but did not succeed for nearly two hours, the beach being lined with natives, who kept up a continual shower of missiles on the boats. Towards sunset they were obliged to give way, when we effected a landing, and recovered the schooner's long boat, which we found concealed in a house five hundred yards from the beach. It being then dark we returned on board, after having set fire to a few houses. On the following morning we found the town deserted, the whole inhabitants having fled to the mountains. We burned the greater part of the town, and broke up all their proas and war canoes. We observed many of the natives armed with brass hilted cutlasses, and a great number had large Spanish knives. They are very expert in slinging stones, and can throw the spear with great precision. I have no doubt the drubbing we gave them will make them more careful in future.

The barrier reef which surrounds the whole Hogoleu group, has in its formation some resemblance to an isosceles triangle, its base being the southern part of the group. The islands on its extremes are situated as follows:—Piso Island in lat. $7^{\circ} 43' N.$, long. $151^{\circ} 46' E.$ Torres Island in lat. $7^{\circ} 20' N.$, long. $151^{\circ} 24' E.$ East limit, three islets in lat. $7^{\circ} 20' N.$, long. $152^{\circ} 1' E.$ Givry, or South Island in lat. $7^{\circ} 8' N.$, long. $151^{\circ} 52' E.$, according to Nonne, but in lat. $6^{\circ} 58' N.$, long. $151^{\circ} 58' E.$, according to Raper.

THE ROYALIST ISLANDS.

THE ROYALIST ISLANDS consist of a group of low coral islands, covered with cocoa-nut trees, and connected by coral reefs, forming a lagoon inside. These islands are thickly peopled by an able bodied race, similar in character, appearance, and language to the inhabitants of Hogoleu. I passed close to this group, after leaving Hogoleu, in October, 1844, and found it correctly placed in Norie's chart. The centre is in lat. $6^{\circ} 47' N.$, long. $152^{\circ} 8' E.$ Strangers should hold no intercourse with these natives.

HASHMY'S GROUP.

HASHMY'S GROUP consists of five low islands, covered with cocoa-nut and bread-fruit trees, and connected by coral reefs, forming a lagoon inside, to which there is no passage through the reef. The group is fifteen miles in circumference, of a circular form, and may be seen twelve miles from a ship's deck. The reef may be approached to within 300 yards, as no hidden dangers exist. These islands are thickly inhabited by a light complexioned race, who although wearing the mask of friendship, are by no means to be trusted. I touched at this group in July, 1846, and made the centre in lat. $5^{\circ} 47' N.$, long. $153^{\circ} 6' E.$, by two good chronometers, measured from Hong Kong.

YOUNG WILLIAM'S GROUP.

YOUNG WILLIAM'S GROUP, or MORTLOCK'S ISLES, consist of a number of islands, connected by coral reefs, forming a large lagoon inside. The two southernmost are the largest; they are each about eight miles in length, in an east and west direction, and not more than half a mile in breadth. All the islands of this group are low, of coral formation, and covered with cocoa-nut and bread-fruit trees, visible about thirteen or fourteen miles from a ship's deck. This group is thickly inhabited by a light complexioned, and able bodied race, who are exceedingly lazy and unwilling to work, and who would not hesitate to cut off a vessel provided they had a fair opportunity. Ships touching here should be constantly on their guard, and not allow any natives on deck.

I first visited this group in April, 1844, and again in October following. I found a good passage through the reef on the south-west side, and anchorage in the lagoon near the entrance, but the bottom was very uneven and rocky. We anchored in 25 fathoms, in the brig *Naiad*, about three quarters of a mile to the northward of the entrance, abreast of a small islet, bearing from us south-west one quarter of a mile, where we lay for three weeks, during which time we built a biche de mer house on the small islet, but could not get the natives to collect the slug, and consequently were obliged to leave. The reefs are well covered with biche de mer; and the

islands produce abundance of cocoa-nuts and bread-fruit. Fowls are also very plentiful. During my stay at this place in 1844, I purchased about forty dozen of fowls, for fish-hooks, knives, &c. The goods most suitable are cheap knives, chisels, iron-hoop, fish-hooks, beads, and calico or American drill.

The last time I visited this group was in July, 1846, and by observations then, agreeing with former ones, I place the N.W. extreme, in lat. $5^{\circ} 27' N.$, long. $153^{\circ} 24' E.$; and the S.W. extreme, in lat. $5^{\circ} 8' N.$, long. $153^{\circ} 38' E.$, measured from Hong Kong, by two good chronometers.

NAIAD GROUP.

NAIAD GROUP (discovered by me in the brig *Naiad*, in 1844) consists of several low, coral islands and islets, connected by coral reefs, forming a lagoon inside. The group is fifteen miles in circumference, and has a clear passage five miles wide betwixt it and Young William's group. The islands are thickly peopled, and are covered with cocoa-nut and bread-fruit trees. They can be seen about thirteen miles from a ship's deck. I made the centre in lat. $5^{\circ} 39' N.$, long. $153^{\circ} 32' E.$

MONTEVERDE ISLANDS.

MONTEVERDE ISLANDS, are of coral formation, and consist of several low islands, covered with cocoa-nut trees, and connected by coral reefs, forming a lagoon inside, with a good passage through the reef on the west side of the group. The barrier reef is about fifteen miles in circumference. These islands are thickly peopled by an able-bodied race, who are by no means to be trusted. Strangers should hold no intercourse with them. The centre is situated in lat. $3^{\circ} 27' 30''$ N., long. $155^{\circ} 48'$ E.

PULOWAT.

PULOWAT, or **POULOUSOUK**, is a low coral island, two miles in length, in a north and south direction, by three quarters of a mile in breadth, thickly wooded, well inhabited, and surrounded by a fringe reef, which extends about 300 yards from the shore in some places. I visited this island in 1844, and found it correctly placed in Norie's chart. Its position is lat. $6^{\circ} 40'$ N., long. $149^{\circ} 23'$ E. I was told by the master of a whaler, that a shoal projects from it a considerable distance to the north-west, having irregular soundings of from ten to thirty fathoms on it, which terminates in a dangerous reef, on which the sea almost always breaks, and that when near the reef Pulowat could just be seen from the topsail-yard. I passed near the south end of this island, and had there-

fore no opportunity of ascertaining the truth of his statement. A bank is also said to exist about twenty miles to the eastward of Pulowat; but, although I passed near the position assigned it in Norie's chart, I saw no appearance of any shoal.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW ISLAND.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW ISLAND is laid down in Norie's chart in Lat. $6^{\circ} 35' N.$, long. $148^{\circ} 47' E.$ I have not seen it, but it is said to be of coral formation, low, covered with cocoa-nut trees, well inhabited, and similar in size and appearance to Pulowat. It does not appear in Lieut. Raper's Table of Maritime Positions, and I have some doubts of its existence. I passed fifteen miles south of its position on the chart, in a clear moonlight night, but saw no appearance of land.

ENDERBY'S ISLES.

ENDERBY'S ISLES are two low, coral islets, connected by reefs, covered with cocoa-nut trees, and well inhabited. A coral shoal, having seven fathoms least water, extends six miles in a W.N.W. direction from the N.W. islet. They are situated, according to Raper, in lat. $7^{\circ} 19' N.$, long. $149^{\circ} 18' E.$

MARTYR'S ISLES.

MARTYR'S ISLES form a group of three small islands, connected by coral reefs, forming a lagoon inside. The group is about twelve miles in circumference. The islands are low, of coral formation, and well inhabited. The north island, Olap, is situated in lat. $7^{\circ} 37' N.$, long. $149^{\circ} 31' E.$; and the south island, Tamatam, in lat. $7^{\circ} 32' N.$, long. $149^{\circ} 30' E.$

PIGALI ISLAND.

PIGALI, or COQUILLE, ISLAND, is only one third of a mile in diameter, covered with cocoa-nut trees and brushwood, surrounded by a coral reef, and uninhabited. It is situated in lat. $8^{\circ} 12' N.$, long. $147^{\circ} 40' E.$

A coral shoal, half a mile in extent, is said to lie in lat. $5^{\circ} 53' N.$, long. $145^{\circ} 39' E.$, with only eight feet water on it in some parts.

LITKE ISLAND.

LITKE ISLE is about three quarters of a mile in diameter, low, of coral formation, and surrounded by a coral reef. It is situated in lat. $8^{\circ} 33' N.$, long. $151^{\circ} 26' E.$, and is uninhabited.

LITKE GROUP.

LITKE, or NAMOUNOUYTO, GROUP, extends in an east and west direction forty miles, and consists of a number of islands, connected to and surrounded by coral reefs. The north extreme, according to Lieut. Raper, is situated in lat. $8^{\circ} 59' N.$, long. $150^{\circ} 16' E.$; the west extreme, or Onoune Islet, in lat. $8^{\circ} 36' N.$, long. $149^{\circ} 52' E.$; and the east islet, in lat. $8^{\circ} 34' N.$, long. $150^{\circ} 32' E.$

LYDIA ISLAND, according to Raper, is situated in lat. $8^{\circ} 38' N.$, long. $147^{\circ} 14' E.$; and a coral bank, with fifteen fathoms water on it, in lat. $8^{\circ} 6' N.$, long. $147^{\circ} 15' E.$

FAYEON ISLAND is situated on a reef, which extends in an E.N.E. and W.S.W. direction, five miles, and is in lat. $8^{\circ} 3' N.$, long. $146^{\circ} 50' E.$, according to Lieut. Raper. The islet is covered with wood.

TUCKER ISLAND.

TUCKER ISLAND is only about a mile in extent, of coral formation, low, and covered with cocoa-nut and bread-fruit trees. It may be approached to within a third of a mile, as no hidden dangers exist. The population amounts to about three hundred and fifty souls. I landed on this island in June, 1846, and found the natives hospitable, but much inclined to pilfer. They are

of a light copper colour; and their food consists entirely of cocoa-nuts, bread-fruit, and fish. I made the island in lat. $7^{\circ} 22' N.$, long. $146^{\circ} 57' E.$

SWEDE ISLANDS.

SWEDE ISLANDS I have not seen. They are six in number, and are described, in Lieut. Raper's Table of Maritime Positions, as extending W.N.W. and E.S.E., six miles. The south and east islet is in lat. $7^{\circ} 27' N.$, long. $146^{\circ} 31' E.$; and the Elato Isles, which I suppose to be part of the same group, in lat. $7^{\circ} 30' N.$, long. $146^{\circ} 19' E.$, extend north and south six miles.

OLIMARAO ISLES, according to the above authority, extend N.E. and S.W. two miles. The north-east islet is situated in lat. $7^{\circ} 44' N.$, long. $145^{\circ} 57' E.$ These may probably be the Five Islands laid down in Norie's chart in lat. $7^{\circ} 32' N.$, long. $145^{\circ} 31' E.$

FARRIOLEP ISLES.

FARRIOLEP ISLES, according to Lieut. Raper, consist of three small islets, connected by coral reefs, forming a lagoon about two miles in diameter. He places the south point in lat. $8^{\circ} 35' N.$, long. $144^{\circ} 36' E.$

EVALOOK.

EVALOOK forms a small group of three low, coral islands, covered with cocoa-nut trees, and connected by coral reefs, forming a lagoon inside. The reefs form a circle about two miles in diameter. There is a good boat passage through the reef on the south side betwixt the two southern islands. The two largest islands are inhabited, and the population amounts to about one hundred and forty souls. They speak the same language as the natives of Ullieye. I visited this little group in 1844, and found biche de mer of the first quality on the reefs. Lieut. Raper places this group in lat. $7^{\circ} 14' N.$, long. $144^{\circ} 30' E.$; but I made it in long. $145^{\circ} 8' E.$, lat. $7^{\circ} 11' N.$

ULLIEYE.

ULLIEYE consists of thirteen low, coral islands, covered with cocoa-nut trees, and connected by coral reefs, forming a lagoon inside, with a wide entrance to it on the south side of the group, which has a bar across it, and on which we had not less than five fathoms water when going in, but we deepened suddenly to seven, nine, and twelve fathoms after crossing the bar, and anchored in nine fathoms, coral and sand, near the north-east island. The western part of the lagoon is not navigable for a ship, being interspersed with coral patches. Nine of the islands are inhabited, and the population amounts to about

fifteen hundred souls. The natives are of a light copper complexion, and although friendly in appearance, are not to be trusted. Their arms consist of Spanish knives, spears, clubs, slings, and stones. They are possessed of large proas, similar to the flying proa of the Marianne Islands, in which they trade backwards and forwards to Guam, and the Caroline Islands. Their food consists of cocoa-nuts, fish, bread-fruit, tarro, bananas, and sugar-cane. Ships passing should not allow any of these natives on deck, as they are most cunning and treacherous. I visited this group in September, 1844, and made the entrance to the lagoon in lat. $7^{\circ} 15' N.$, long. $144^{\circ} 2' E.$, by two good chronometers. This longitude agrees with the Russian navigator Kotzebue's position; but he is twenty miles wrong in his latitude! The reefs produce biche de mer of the first quality.

KAMA ISLANDS.

THE KAMA ISLANDS were visited by me in September, 1844. I made them in lat. $6^{\circ} 35' N.$, long. $142^{\circ} 59' E.$; Lieut. Raper places them in lat. $6^{\circ} 40' N.$, long. $143^{\circ} 11' E.$ They consist of two low, coral islands, each about a mile in length, connected and surrounded by coral reefs, forming a lagoon of an oval shape. The islands can be seen twelve or thirteen miles from a ship's deck. The population amounts to about one hundred and fifty souls, who live chiefly on cocoa-nuts and fish.

PHILIP ISLES.

PHILIP'S two isles are low, of coral formation, covered with cocoa-nut trees, and connected by coral reefs, forming a small lagoon. The islands are situated on the south and east side of the lagoon. These islets are often visited by the natives of Yap and Ullieye, from the former of whom I obtained the above information. Lieut. Raper places them in lat. $8^{\circ} 6' N.$, long. $140^{\circ} 52' E.$

FEYS, or TROMELIN ISLE, is, according to Lieut. Raper, one mile in extent, low, covered with timber, has no lagoon, no anchorage, and bad landing; situated in lat. $9^{\circ} 46' N.$, long. $140^{\circ} 35' E.$ This island was searched for by a tender belonging to the United States Exploring Expedition, in December, 1841, but they saw no land in the position assigned to it.

MACKENZIE GROUP.

MACKENZIE GROUP is of great extent, and consists of a number of low coral islands, covered with cocoa-nut and bread-fruit trees, connected by coral reefs, forming a large lagoon inside, with several good passages through the reef, leading to it. This group is thickly inhabited by an able bodied race, of a light copper complexion, whose manners and customs are similar to those of the inhabitants of Yap, which island they often visit. These natives, although appearing mild and friendly to a stranger, are by no means to be trusted, as two Manila vessels were cut off at this group some years ago. The reefs produce biche de mer of a superior quality. Captain Wilkes of the United States Exploring expedition, had this group examined by one of his tenders, who places the eastern extremity in lat. $10^{\circ} 8' N.$, long. $139^{\circ} 55' E.$ Lieut. Raper places the north extreme in lat. $10^{\circ} 6' N.$, long. $139^{\circ} 46' E.$, and the west extreme in lat. $10^{\circ} 3' N.$, long. $139^{\circ} 37' E.$

Hunter's Reef is situated in lat. $9^{\circ} 57' N.$, long. $138^{\circ} 13' E.$

MATELOTAS ISLES.

THE MATELOTAS consist of three small coral islets, connected by reefs, which are very extensive and dangerous. The eastern reefs are in detached patches, and with a westerly wind the sea does not break on them. The reef extends fully six miles in a northerly direction from the north-eastern islet. These islets can only be seen about eleven miles from a ship's deck, and should always have a good berth in passing, particularly with hazy weather, or in a dark night, as strong currents sometimes prevail in the vicinity of the islands. I visited this group in August, 1843, and found the southern islet inhabited by a few Yap natives, amounting to about thirty-five souls. It is situated in lat. $8^{\circ} 17' N.$, long. $137^{\circ} 33' E.$, and the north-eastern islet, in lat. $8^{\circ} 35' N.$, long. $137^{\circ} 40' E.$ The other islet is situated on the N.W. part of the group, where the reefs are very extensive and dangerous. There is a passage leading to the lagoon, near the N.W. part of the south islet, but I could find no safe anchorage inside. The southern islet may be approached pretty close on the south side, as no hidden dangers exist. The inhabitants live entirely on cocoa-nuts and fish. The reefs produce biche de mer, and the lagoon is well stocked with excellent fish.

THE ISLAND OF YAP.

THE ISLAND OF YAP is about ten miles in length in a north and south direction, and seven or eight miles in breadth, surrounded by a coral reef, which extends from its southern end two or three miles. It is possessed of an excellent harbour on the south-east side, formed by reefs. The entrance is about 200 yards wide, and can easily be discerned from the mast-head when standing along the reef. After getting inside, the channel widens a little, and trends to N.N.W. In some places it is nearly one third of a mile in width. The anchorage off the village of Tomal is quite safe; the holding ground is good, and the depth of water moderate.

This island is moderately elevated in the centre, and slopes gradually towards the shore all round. It can be seen about twenty-five miles in clear weather, and makes in three hummocks, which would lead a stranger passing, to mistake it for three small islands. The centre of this island is situated in lat. $9^{\circ} 35' 30''$ N., long. $138^{\circ} 8'$ E., according to Horsburgh. A shoal laid down in the charts as Hunter's reef, is said to lie fifteen or twenty miles to the northward of Yap. This is the only danger near it that I am aware of.

Very little timber grows inland. The shores are lined with mangroves, which grow in the salt water, and the low lands between the villages, are covered with small wood. In consequence of the scarcity of large

timber on this island, the natives get their proas built at the Pallou Islands, which they frequently visit. The villages are situated near the shore, amongst groves of cocoa-nut, bread-fruit, and betel-nut trees, of which they have an abundance.

Their houses form an oblong square, and are well constructed. The roof is thatched with palm-leaves sewed to reeds, and neatly seized to bamboo rafters; the sides are covered in with wicker-work.

The canoes and proas of these islanders, are formed of planks sewed together, and are similar in shape to the flying proa of the Ladrone Islands. The bottoms of these proas are formed like a wedge, and the keel being similar in shape to a crescent, they draw a good deal of water. Those in which they perform their voyages to the other islands, are of a large size, rigged with a triangular sail, and generally have a small house built amidships on the platform. They are very weatherly, and sail exceedingly fast in smooth water.

The betel-nut tree is cultivated with the greatest care. It is a beautiful slender palm, and grows amongst the cocoa-nut trees, which it resembles in appearance. The nuts are pulled before they are ripe, and are chewed with the usual condiments, lime and aromatic leaves, by both sexes. The natives are an able bodied race, well formed, and of a light copper complexion. They are more advanced in civilization than any of the other Caroline Islanders, their villages being regularly laid out in streets, which are neatly paved. They have also well constructed stone wharves and piers. Each village

has a large square, where the chiefs assemble for consultation.

Many of the women are handsome, and of a much lighter colour than the men, owing I presume to their not being so much exposed to the weather, and to their wearing, when out of doors, a *mantilla*, or upper article of dress. Both sexes allow their hair to grow to a great length, and wear it tucked up in the form of a knot, on one side of the head. The dress of the males, if such it may be called, is slovenly in the extreme. They wear the *maro* next them, and by way of improvement; a bunch of bark fibres dyed red, over it, the ends of which hang down to their knees, before and behind. The females are more decently clad; their dress consists of the *oung*, or grass petticoat, formed of long grass, or banana fibres, braided to a string at the upper part, and made wide enough to meet when tied round the body; the women when dressed wear several of these, one above another, which form a bushy petticoat. These dresses are dyed of various colours, and are worn of different lengths, the dress of the unmarried girl hardly reaching to the knee, while that of the married woman hangs down to the ankle. They have also an upper article of dress which they wear when out of doors, or when exposed to the sun, as before mentioned. Both sexes wear conical hats, formed of palm leaves sewed together; they are similar in shape to the hats of the Chinese, and protect their heads effectually from both rain and sun. Many of the men are handsomely tattooed on the breast, arms, and shoulders, but tattooing

does not appear to be much practised among the women. The latter enjoy greater privileges and exemptions from labour than most of the women at other islands. They seldom do any out door work, but merely manage their household affairs; and, on the whole, appear to be well treated.

With respect to the general character of these people, little can be said in their favour. They are exceedingly cunning and treacherous, and should an opportunity offer, would not hesitate to cut off any vessel which might visit the island. Foreign finery, however, is a great temptation to savages, and excites their covetous disposition to attempt obtaining by force, what their indolent habits prevent them from procuring by fair and honest traffic.

These natives, like all savages, are exceedingly superstitious. I have often wondered, when sitting in their houses, where they generally have good fires, at seeing both men and women labouring away to procure a light by the friction of two sticks, and they sitting close to the fire at the time. On inquiring their reason for this unnecessary labour, their reply was, that were they to light their cigars from the fire, some calamity would be sure to happen. They do not smoke their tobacco in pipes, but roll it up in leaves, similar to the paper cigars of the Spaniards.

Their food consists of cocoa-nuts, of which they have an abundant supply, bread-fruit, bananas, tarro, sugar-cane, fish, and turtle. They catch the latter when small, and feed them in a pond until they get fat and reach their full growth.

The implements of warfare in use among these people,

are, spears, clubs, knives, slings, and stones. The spears are made of hard wood, jagged at the points, and are in consequence very dangerous weapons.

As the following extracts from my private journal, during my visit to this island in 1843, may be found useful and interesting, and will more fully illustrate the character of the Yap natives, I shall insert them without further comment:—

Brig *Naiad*, August 21, 1843. A.M., light breeze from N.E., and fine clear weather. Day-light the south point of Yap bore E.N.E. distant seven miles; working up along the reef during the forenoon. Noon, rounded the southern part of the reef, and stood to the northward, the wind veering round to the S.E. quarter. 4, P.M., discovered a clear passage through the reef, leading to the harbour. 4h. 30m., abreast of it; hove to, loaded the guns, sent the top arm-chests aloft, saw the anchors clear, and boarding nettings ready for tricing out. 5, P.M., completed our arrangements, and bore away for the entrance, accompanied by about twenty large proas, full of men. When about entering the channel, they surrounded the brig, evidently with the intention of boarding; but having taken the precaution of stationing hands by the guns, and small arm men round the vessel, before bearing up, they did not venture nearer than twenty yards whilst running through the narrows. At 5h. 45m. came to in eighteen fathoms for the night, abreast of a village called Rule. After furling sails and tricing out the nettings, a high chief, named Leok, from the town of Tomal, with his followers, was permitted to come on board; and through our Pallou Island inter-

preters, we stated to him that the sole object of our visit was to procure a cargo of biche de mer. On receiving a present, he went on shore, promising to pilot us up to the head of the harbour on the following morning, where we intended mooring the brig. An officer and ten men in the watch during the night, and every precaution taken to guard against surprise.

22nd—Light variable airs, and fine pleasant weather. 6, A.M., Leok arrived, attended by a large retinue. I allowed him and a few of the principal chiefs to come on board. 7, weighed, and made sail, with a light air from the eastward. 9, anchored off the town of Tomal, to the westward, and within 400 yards of a woody island. Moored ship with both bowers. Before noon we were surrounded by large proas and canoes from all quarters, who came more out of curiosity than with any intention of trading, having nothing in their canoes but a few cocoa-nuts. They appeared to be an able bodied race, and were all armed with clubs, spears, and large Spanish knives. In the afternoon I held a conference with Leok, the prime minister, and the other chiefs, and informed them that we had come from the Pallou Islands, and had a present on board from Abba Thule for their king, in charge of a Koroar chief, who was also the bearer of a message. I requested Leok to summon a meeting of the chiefs, when the message and present should be delivered; to which he agreed, and appointed the following day for that purpose. He informed me that a grand religious ceremony had to be observed for almost a month, before we would be allowed to hold any intercourse with the town, or see the king, during which time the ship would

be under a strict taboo. I examined the reefs in the evening, and found an abundance of biche de mer. An officer and six sentries on duty, day and night, the boarding nettings triced out, no natives allowed on deck, and all canoes ordered off at sunset.

23rd—Light N.E. winds and fine. At 9, A.M., the premier and chiefs of Tomal came on board to receive their present, sent by Abba Thule, for their king, which consisted of nothing more or less than a round stone, with a hole in the centre, similar to a small upper mill-stone. These stones are very rare, and consequently highly prized, being only found in the mountains of the Pallou Islands. When the chiefs were seated on the quarter-deck, the Koroar chief came forward, and placing himself opposite, addressed them as follows:—"High chiefs of Yap, I am the bearer of a message from the great and powerful Abba Thule, King of Koroar: who instructed me to proceed with this English ship to your village, for the purpose of procuring a cargo of biche de mer. The English are the friends and allies of Abba Thule; and he expects that you will receive and treat *his* friends as *your* friends and brothers. Abba Thule and his predecessors have ever been most friendly with the English; and whenever the ships of that nation visit Koroar, he considers it his duty not only to protect them, but to supply their wants as far as lies in his power. He has always found the English honourable in their dealings, and no quarrel has ever arisen between them since his predecessors' first intercourse with the subjects of that country until the present day; and he would impress on you the propriety of treating the crew of this and all other ves-

sels with hospitality, and protection from the depredations of those of your subjects who may be inclined to evil. The English are a most powerful nation, and will assuredly allow no outrage committed on any British ship to pass unpunished. I am also deputed by Abba Thule to present to your king this present of money, as a small token of his friendship for his brother of Yap." Leok, on receiving the present, made the following reply:—"Etelokul, we have heard your message, and accept your present. We desire you to convey our thanks to Abba Thule for this token of his regard, and also for sending this English ship to our island. This is the first ship of that nation which has ever anchored in our harbour. Biche de mer is plentiful on the reefs, and of no use to us; why then should we keep it? We are very poor, and our island produces little beyond cocoa-nuts. We are glad to hear the English are your friends, and would wish them to be ours also." On the conclusion of Leok's reply, I made them a present, and addressed them, through my interpreter as follows:—"High chiefs of Yap, I have come on a friendly visit to your island, recommended by our mutual friend Abba Thule, for the purpose of bartering with you for biche de mer. Although my ship, as you will perceive, is well manned and armed, still I wish to impress on your minds that I have not come here with any hostile intention—far from it—I have come as your friend, and will use my utmost endeavour to conduct our trading on the most amicable footing. You must be well aware that I cannot procure a cargo of biche de mer by fighting; and that the success of my voyage depends on keeping on friendly terms

with you. My ship is armed merely for the purpose of protecting the lives and property entrusted to my charge, and I hope that no breach of faith on your part may interrupt our friendly intercourse. I have cautioned my crew to take nothing from any of your subjects without payment. Should I find them act contrary to orders, I shall assuredly punish them."

After having partaken of refreshments, I showed them the vessel. They took particular notice of the great guns, and expressed a wish to see them fired, in which I gratified them, to their no small astonishment. The scene was both ludicrous and amusing. After the first discharge, they held their hands over their ears, shouting the whole time, apparently distracted with the noise, and filled with terror on seeing the shot tearing up the sea at the distance of a mile from the vessel. About the time we ceased firing, a messenger arrived from the town to entreat us to desist, as we had caused such an alarm, that the women were almost distracted. The chiefs promised before leaving, that although the taboo prohibited a regular intercourse with the vessel, they would set their slaves to work in preparing thatch for a biche de mer house. At sunset, sent down topgallant yards and masts. Observed our usual precautions with regard to the watches, and allowed no canoes alongside after a specified hour.

24th—Light N.E. winds, and fine. Unbent sails, and stowed them below; rigged the boats and sampans. A number of large proas and canoes round the vessel. In the forenoon I visited a village named Rule, near the entrance of the harbour, where I met with a kind re-

ception. On my landing the chiefs assembled, and took their seats in the council square; they expressed themselves much disappointed that I had not anchored at their village instead of Tomal, but I gave the latter the preference, on account of their being the most powerful. On my requesting permission from the chiefs of Rule to form an establishment at their village, they immediately acceded, and granted me the use of their large council house to cure the *biche de mer* in. It was arranged that a boat's crew from the vessel should be sent on the following day to fit it up. Whilst there, I learned that the religious taboo, before alluded to, had no reference to any village but Tomal. The inhabitants of Rule appeared much more straightforward and hospitable than those of Tomal.

25th—Fresh northerly winds and fine, 9, A.M. started for Rule, taking with me the gunner, a tindel, and eight lascars to fit up the curing house. I found on looking round the village that a great scarcity of firewood existed, the only wood to be procured for burning being mangrove trees growing in the salt water, with which the shores were fronted. I remained until near sunset, by which time we had fixed the pots, and finished part of the lower *batter*. I left the gunner, tindel, and four lascars, in charge of the establishment. I learned, on returning on board, that an immense number of proas and canoes had visited the ship, during my absence.

26th—Fresh northerly winds, and cloudy. Landed with the third mate and a party of men, on the small island abreast of the vessel, and cleared a place for a *biche de mer* house near the water's edge. The prime

minister and several chiefs were present. They promised before leaving to commence the house on Monday. Employed on board cleaning small arms and inspecting our fighting gear, &c. Sent a boat to Rule in the afternoon. They returned about sunset, and informed me that the house was almost ready.

27th—Fresh northerly winds, and fair weather. 9h, mustered all hands in clean clothes. No work done, being Sunday, and no liberty allowed on shore.

29th—Northerly winds, and fair weather. The natives commenced bringing bamboo, and thatch for the house. The third mate and a shore party of twenty men cutting firewood. The natives of Tomal appear a very dilatory set, and do not work with any spirit. I went to Rule in the afternoon, and stayed there until sunset, by which time the platforms were finished, and every thing ready for fishing. I left two of the Pallou Islanders with the gunner, to assist, and act as interpreters.

30th—Northerly winds and squally, with rain. Little or nothing done by the Tomal natives. In the afternoon we commenced putting up the frame of the house, on the small island; its dimensions being, sixty-five feet in length, twenty in breadth, and seven in height.

31st—Strong N.E. winds and fair weather. Twenty-five men at work on the island, cutting spars and rafters for the house, and putting the frame up. A number of chiefs and natives looking on, chewing betel-nut, but rendering no assistance. In the afternoon two small canoes brought some plaited cocoa-nut leaves for thatch, from one of the slave villages.

September, 1st—Fresh northerly winds and fine weather. A number of our crew at work on shore, putting up the frame of the house, and cutting firewood, and bamboo. Visited Rule in the evening; found the gunner and his men busily engaged curing *biche de mer*. He said there appeared to be abundance of the first quality on the reefs. The lower *batter* was quite full of fish, but the firewood was so wet, that he had great difficulty in keeping up a proper degree of heat under it. The gunner complained sadly of the laziness of the natives. He said they would neither assist to cure the *biche de mer*, nor help to cut firewood.

2nd—Variable winds, with passing showers. The shore party at work on the small island as usual. Finished the frame of the house by sunset. Employed cleaning small arms, and examining the charges of the guns. During the afternoon, a young lad came on board, dressed in the Yap costume, who represented himself as being a survivor from one of the Spanish vessels cut off at this island some years ago. I learned through my interpreter, that this lad, who was a boy in the vessel at the time of the massacre, was spared by the natives, and had been kept in a state of slavery ever since. The poor fellow appeared much distressed; he threw himself down at my feet, and crying bitterly, implored me to keep him on board. His name was Lorio, a native of Manila. He said the natives had prevented him from communicating with me previously, and would if he returned kill him. I told the poor lad he was welcome to remain, and that he could consider himself under my protection. He corroborated all that

I had previously heard regarding the treachery of the natives; and, much to my astonishment, assured me that Leok and the chiefs of Tomal had it in contemplation to cut us off when running in the passage, on the evening of our arrival, and were only deterred from making the attempt, by seeing the precautions I had taken. He warned me against forming any more curing establishments on shore, as the natives, he said, had it still in contemplation to cut us off, and were merely pretending friendship to take us off our guard. He said the biche de mer was very plentiful, but the natives so exceedingly lazy, that he was confident they would never collect a cargo for me; and he strongly advised me to leave the island at once.

The following was Lorio's account of the capture, and massacre of the crew, of the Spanish brig he belonged to:—About the year 1836, two Manila vessels, one a brig, armed, and manned with a crew of fifty Manila men, the other an armed schooner, carrying forty men, went to the island of Yap (having been there the year previous) to procure a cargo of biche de mer. The schooner after having stayed a few days, took a number of Yap natives on board, and proceeded to Mackenzie's Group, to the N.E. of Yap, where, through some quarrel with the natives, she was captured, burnt, and the crew massacred. The brig remained at Tomal, (the same village we were anchored off,) and the natives assisted her crew to erect curing houses at five different villages, together with a biche de mer house on the small island abreast of the vessel, (the same on which we were now erecting our establishment)

among which they had forty of their crew distributed, leaving only the captain and nine men on board. Things went on quietly for a month, when a conspiracy was formed by the chiefs of the different villages to massacre the whole of the shore parties, and capture the vessel; and to prevent suspicion, it was resolved that the brig should be taken solely by the Tomal chiefs, who were to go on board in a friendly manner, and overpower the captain and the few men remaining with him, whilst the shore parties were to be murdered at the same moment. On the day appointed Leok with nineteen chiefs went on board, having no other weapons than a short club of iron-wood, concealed in their betel-nut baskets, which they usually carry in their hand. They sat on deck for some time, chewing betel-nut, until they saw the crew completely off their guard, when they rushed on them and murdered the whole, with the exception of the boy. The captain was an European Spaniard. He was asleep on a couch on the quarter-deck when they made the rush, and Leok was the person who had the honour of despatching him, which however he did not accomplish without receiving a severe wound in the thigh from the captain's dagger, who, on awaking, made a desperate struggle for his life. All the shore parties were murdered at the same time. The vessel was then dismantled and burnt." Lorio assured me that they had had no previous quarrel with the natives, but that it was solely an act of treachery on their part, for the sake of plunder. The foregoing statement confirmed what Abba Thule had told me regarding the character of the Yap people, whom he represented as being possessed of great

cunning, treacherous in the highest degree, and men in whose professions no confidence should be placed.

Nothing particular occurred from the 2nd till the 20th, when I was informed by Leok that the taboo would be taken off on the following day. Owing to the excessive laziness of the natives, the biche de mer house was not thatched until the 15th, so that we were not ready for curing the slug until the afternoon of the 18th, on which day we commenced operations.

21st—This being the day appointed for the grand festival or ceremony which was to terminate the taboo, I had the ship decorated with flags at an early hour. At 9, A.M., a messenger arrived requesting my presence on shore. In addition to my usual boat's crew—who were fully armed—I took with me three European sea-cunnies, and Etelokul the Koroar chief. On landing we were received by one of the chiefs, and conducted to seats in the council square, where we found the prime minister and nobles assembled, in their gala dresses. The prime minister then intimated that the boat's crew must be called up, and the oars, &c., put into the council-house, until the ceremony was over. This had rather a suspicious aspect; but, on being assured by Etelokul that no treachery was intended, I thought it advisable to comply with their request. On this, the nobles left us, having intimated that they were going to the palace to join in the procession which was to accompany the king to the council-square. In a few minutes a flourish of conchs announced to us that the procession was formed, and had left the palace. It soon hove in sight in the following order:—First came two men blowing conchs; then the

high priest carrying palm leaves and water in a calabash; next, the king, followed by the nobles, walking two and two abreast; lastly, the sons of the nobility and the inferior chiefs. We rose on their approach, and continued standing until all were seated. The prime minister placed me in front of the king, by the side of the high priest. A procession of females followed. First, all the maidens of high rank in their best dresses—their hair decorated with beautiful sweet-scented flowers, and carrying bouquets—walked past in single file, and seated themselves opposite the pavement; next, the nobles' wives, followed by the inferior chiefs' wives and concubines—all in their gala dresses, carrying palm leaves and flowers—walked passed in single file, and seated themselves, according to rank, near the maidens. When all were seated, the high priest stood up, and made a long oration or prayer, responded to by the nobles. Towards its conclusion, he sprinkled me with water from the calabash, touching me gently on the shoulders with palm leaves, several of which he tied with a peculiar knot, and put round my neck. These leafy collars were also worn by the king and nobles, and each of them presented me with one. At the conclusion of the ceremony, we—accompanied by the high priest and his conch-blowers—returned on board. The high priest—after walking three times round the deck, striking the gunnel with palm leaves, and praying the God of the Sea to depart from the ship, preceded by two men blowing conchs—broke a cocoa-nut on the mainmast, and proclaimed the ship released from taboo.

The purport of this magnificent and imposing ceremony—of which I have only given a brief outline—was

to propitiate the God of the Sea, to return to his native element; they having a superstitious belief that he had followed the ship to the island, and would depart at the expiration of a month after her arrival. The king, during the taboo, had been residing inland, daily propitiating the Gods, by prayers and offerings, to avert any calamity happening during the observance of the monthly taboo.

I was much pleased with the appearance of the town from the little I could see of it while on shore. The houses appeared to be well built, and the surrounding scenery beautiful. When all was over, we fired a salute of nine guns, to the no small astonishment of the natives.

22nd—Fresh westerly winds and fine weather. Went on shore in the forenoon with a present to the king, whom I found seated in a square pavement in front of his house, attended by the queen, his children, and several of the nobles. He desired me to sit down, and, after some conversation held through my interpreter, was graciously pleased to accept my present. He, in return, sent down a quantity of cocoa-nuts, bananas, and tarro to the boat; but seemed to take little interest in what I said respecting the biche de mer, intimating that he left that entirely to the chiefs. I invited him on board; but he declined visiting the ship, alleging that it was against the rules of the island for him to go afloat. He appeared to be from forty to fifty years of age, of moderate stature, pleasing features, and presented altogether rather a prepossessing appearance. He was handsomely tattooed about the breast and shoulders, had fine glossy black hair, and his wrists and neck were decorated with green palm leaves; but his dress presented nothing which could distinguish

him from the other chiefs. On leaving the palace, I walked over the town with the prime minister, and was entertained at his house with boiled tarro, cocoa-nuts, bananas, and fish. Whilst there, I observed two old rusty muskets standing in a corner, which I supposed to have been obtained from the Manila vessel cut off at this place.

On walking down to the landing place, I found all the chiefs assembled in council, and took the opportunity of stating to them what the king had said regarding the *biche de mer*. After a long discussion, they informed me, that the taboo being now taken off, they were ready to commence, and would do so on the following day if the weather permitted; but that no one except the chiefs and nobles would be permitted to fish for a certain number of days. I remonstrated with them on the absurdity of this arrangement, and tried to impress on them the value of time, and the great expense incurred by keeping the vessel here so long doing nothing; but I only received for answer, that this was etiquette, and that we would have to conform to their customs. They fixed the term of their monopoly at ten days; and said, that at the expiration of that time, all the natives would be at liberty to fish for us.

On the 24th—We experienced a most severe storm from the S.W., which lasted twelve hours. It commenced to blow strong about noon, the barometer then being at 29.75 inches. Sunset, blowing a fresh gale, bar. 29.65. At 9, P.M., gale increasing, accompanied with heavy rain, thunder, and lightning; sent the topsail-yards on deck, and pointed the lower yards to the wind, the barometer

having fallen to 29.55. Midnight, blowing furiously, bar. 29.50, expected the vessel to bring home her anchors every moment, but could do nothing more, having no room to pay out cable, the reef being within a hundred yards of the brig's stern. 1, A.M., still blowing with unabated violence, bar. 29.55. At 2h., the gale commenced moderating, bar. 29.60. 3, A.M., gale moderating fast, and the sky clear, bar. 29.75.

This could not have been a Cyclone, as the wind did not veer a point from its commencement until it ceased.

This small volume having been already enlarged beyond its original design, and as I have still some remarks to insert on the winds and currents of the Pacific, I shall finish these extracts by briefly enumerating a few of the occurrences which tended to hasten our departure from the Island of Yap.

On account of the confirmed laziness of the Tomal natives, and seeing no chance of procuring a cargo at this place, I was induced, through the representation of a chief belonging to the north-east part of the island, to form a curing establishment at his village, where, on examination, I found the biche de mer plentiful. This station I left in charge of a sea-cunny and five lascars. I formed a fourth curing establishment, on the 3rd of October, near the south end of the island, with the same number of men in charge. I visited Rule the following day, and while there, the chiefs made use of every argument they could think of to induce me to remove the brig from Tomal to their village; but, although the slug was more abundant, and of a better quality, at the latter place, I could see little prospect of gaining much by the

exchange, as they appeared equally lazy and unwilling to work. It was therefore evident ~~that~~ my only chance of procuring a cargo, was by having an establishment at each of the principal towns. The Rule chiefs thought I incurred great risk in forming any so far from the ship as the north-eastern village; as its inhabitants were in league with the Tomal natives, who had it in contemplation to attempt our capture on the first favourable opportunity. They said Leok was a cunning scoundrel, and had long been tampering with my crew, enticing them by promises of land and wives to desert from the vessel. I paid little attention to their caution at the time, thinking they had some sinister motive in view, but before I left the island, I found they had told me nothing but the truth.

On the 7th of October, the Manila boy Lorio was informed by a native belonging to one of the slave villages, that Leok was organizing a force of 600 men to attack the vessel, and that the shore parties were to be murdered at the same time; also, that the priests had been consulted as to the cause and origin of the influenza—which had unfortunately broke out amongst them about the latter end of September,—and they had prophesied that I had bewitched them and brought the sickness. Leok, he said, had long had it in contemplation to capture the vessel; but the attack had been delayed in the hope of getting more of our people distributed over the island. The native could not tell Lorio how soon they intended making the attempt; all he knew was, that messengers had been dispatched to the western villages some days previous; and since then, they had been busily engaged

equipping their large proas, and making warlike preparations.

On the morning of the 9th, observed a number of large proas, full of men, coming towards the vessel from the south end of the island; recalled the shore-party; and got every thing in readiness for defence. About noon they came alongside, accompanied by Leok, who was very anxious that I should allow them to come on deck and inspect the brig; but seeing them armed with clubs, spears, and Spanish knives, I declined doing so. They hovered round us till sunset, and then landed at Tomal. On the following day I went to Rule in the whale boat, to get her repaired; the carpenter being in charge of that station. On my arrival, I hauled her on the wharf, and set him to work to put a new plank in her bottom. I observed many of the natives labouring under influenza; but they made no complaint as to the cause of it. About two hours afterwards, I was sitting in the curing-house, giving the lascars directions as to the drying of the biche de mer, when I was much alarmed at seeing twelve men at the east door of the house, armed with knives, clubs, and spears. After consulting for a moment, they entered, walked up to where I was seated, and squatted down. I had my pistols and sword as usual, and the carpenter a musket and cutlass. We kept close together, with our arms ready, and sat facing them for fully half an hour, without a word being spoken on either side. They at last got up and walked out; and a more ferocious set of villains I never beheld. It was evident they had come to murder us; but were deterred by our determined appearance and presence of mind. On

their departure, the head chief of the village came in, and informed me—much to my astonishment—that the party who had then left us; and who belonged to a village on the west side of the island, had been hired by the Tomal chiefs to murder me; also, that Leok intended attacking the brig that very night, with the large proas which had visited us on the previous day. He assured me that I had no cause for alarm, as he was my friend, and had ordered those emissaries of Leok to leave his village the moment he was aware of their intentions. As the broken plank had been taken out of the boat's bottom, the chief proposed to send me on board in a canoe; but after what I had heard and witnessed, I had no notion of trusting myself to their mercy, and thought it would be safer to remain until the boat was repaired. I set the carpenter to work at her bottom, and wrote a note to my chief officer acquainting him of the intended attack, instructing him to recall the shore party from the small island without delay, and to make every preparation for the defence of the brig; but to be careful to act only on the defensive. At the same time I acquainted him of the critical situation in which I was placed; but advised him on no account to weaken his force by sending a boat, as there were already by far too many men out of the ship. One of the chiefs undertook to convey this note on board; and I lost no time in despatching him with it. At 5, P.M., he returned with a hurried note from my chief officer, assuring me that no time should be lost in acting up to my instructions. The boat was finished by sunset, when we launched her, and returned on board, taking with us all the cured biche de mer.

We immediately made preparations for sea; and, during the night, succeeded in bringing all our men safe on board from the different stations. On the 14th of October we sailed from this inhospitable island for Ascension, where we arrived on the 23rd, having had a fine run of only nine days. We experienced strong easterly currents during the passage, and had the wind from W.N.W. to S.W.

THE PALLOU ISLANDS.

I HAVE visited these islands several times, and by chronometrical admeasurements from Macao and Manila, found the whole group placed fifteen miles too far east in Norie's and Horsburgh's charts. I made Angour in lat. $6^{\circ} 53' 30''$ N., long. $134^{\circ} 6'$ E.; Babelthouap, east point, lat. $7^{\circ} 41'$ N., long. $134^{\circ} 40'$ E.; Kyangl, lat. $8^{\circ} 8' 30''$ N., long. $134^{\circ} 35'$ E. Lieut. Raper, in his Table of Maritime Positions, places them as follows:—

Angour, south point, lat. $6^{\circ} 55'$ N., long. $134^{\circ} 8'$ E.

Pellelew, south point, lat. $6^{\circ} 58'$ N., long. $134^{\circ} 13'$ E.

Errakong Island, lat. $7^{\circ} 11'$ N., long. $134^{\circ} 23'$ E.

Babelthouap, east point, lat. $7^{\circ} 41'$ N., long. $134^{\circ} 43'$ E.

Kyangl Island, lat. $8^{\circ} 8'$ N., long. $134^{\circ} 35'$ E.

WINDS AND CURRENTS OF THE PACIFIC OCEAN.

THE following remarks on the Winds and Currents of the Pacific Ocean, are extracted from the *Nautical Magazine*, for 1843, p. 1. They are compiled by Captain Hunter—who has long been navigating in those seas—and entirely coincide with my own experience.

“Never having seen any statement of winds in the Pacific Ocean, and believing that many imagine this ocean to be subject to uninterrupted trade winds throughout, or with such uncertain and transient deviations as to preclude any dependence being placed in them,—through which many circuitous and tedious passages are made from Manila, the Malucca Islands, &c., to Sydney, New Zealand, and other adjacent harbours,—I am induced to offer such remarks as appear likely to be serviceable, and which the experience of eighteen or twenty years’ cruising in the Pacific has enabled me to collect.

These observations will be chiefly directed to the western part of the South Pacific Ocean. Mr. Hosburgh briefly states that the west monsoon, which blows regularly in the Indian Ocean, extends to New Guinea. This monsoon blows as steadily, strongly, and regularly, along the north side of New Guinea, at New Britain, New Ireland, and all contiguous islands south of the Equator, so far eastward as Malanta, and the northern part of the

New Hebrides, as in any part of the Indian Ocean whatever; and extending in a wind of gradually decreasing constancy and continuation, from hence far eastward to the Society Islands and Marquesas. The limits in latitude appear similar to the Indian Ocean, from one degree north to fifteen south,—occasionally to nineteen south, and the period from the beginning of January until the end of March. Having said thus much, as this is written principally with the idea of endeavouring to show the practicability of making passages to the eastward in the Pacific,—instead of the circuitous route round New Holland,—which I have never heard has been attempted by trading vessels, although performed by whalers continually, I proceed to state a few facts of such passages, and will first attempt to prove the practicability of making a passage to the eastward, during the easterly monsoon in south latitude, or, from April until December or January, by keeping to the northward of the equatorial current, and between the trades or monsoons.

In October, 1835, being off the Asia islands, and wishing to make a passage to the eastward, winds light and variable, and current running strongly to the westward, against which we could make no progress, stood to the northward, and on the 19th October were in lat. $2^{\circ} 6' N.$, and long. $134^{\circ} 11' E.$ Having lost the westerly current, pushed to the eastward between the parallels of $2^{\circ} 15'$ and $2^{\circ} 34' N.$ On the 27th were in long. $147^{\circ} E.$ From hence stood to the south-eastward, and made Matthias Island—it being my object to cruise in this neighbourhood—on the 30th; passed through St.

George's Channel, quickly, current favourable, and to the Treasury Islands. Cruised here until 19th of December; started with a westerly wind which carried us to $169^{\circ} 36'$ E. on the 26th, having passed on the south side of Banks Islands, becalmed two or three days, then with variable winds chiefly from E.S.E. proceeded to the southward, and anchored in the Bay of Islands 15th of January.

These passages were made at a season deemed impracticable, before the west monsoon had set in steadily, by a southseaman of moderate sailing qualities, without using studding sails. The passage to the eastward may, I am convinced, be made at all seasons, by pursuing the same plan; which is, as before stated, to keep to the northward of the equatorial current, and between the trades or monsoons. Here you will have a variable wind chiefly from the westward, with a drain of favourable current at times. Further to corroborate this opinion, June 23rd in 1° S., and 149° E., having been drifted from Matthias Island and New Hanover by a westerly current of two and a half or three knots an hour, stood to the northward, got westerly winds on the Equator. With these made easting, and on the 27th reached 155° E., and $0^{\circ} 45'$ S.; made Bouka Point soon afterwards; then found a current equal in strength to that at Matthias Island. At this time the westerly current did not extend quite to the Equator.

Again in September, 1840, being unable to hold on near the Admiralty Islands, in consequence of strong westerly currents, stood to the northward, and when in $0^{\circ} 24'$ N., and in 146° E., proceeded to 2° N. before

losing the current; then worked to the eastward, and stood to the southward on the east side of the Green Islands, which are in about 156° E. The passage from Morty to Bouka has also been made in August by adopting the same plan. Although all these passages terminated in the longitude of the Salomon Islands, it was not through inability to proceed farther to the eastward, but merely in consequence of this being the destination. More might be quoted tending to show that these line currents seldom extend northward of 2° N.

During the west monsoon in south latitude, it has been a common practice, the last fifteen years, for ships to make passages from Timor to the Salomon Islands, some returning at the commencement of the easterly monsoon, and others spreading over the Pacific. Last year, five ships which had been cruising in the Indian Ocean, proceeded eastward between January and April, one along the line to the eastward of the Kingsmill Group, another to the Salomon Islands and New Zealand, and the remainder to New Ireland and elsewhere. From all which, I wish it to be inferred, that any ship leaving Manila between the beginning of December, and the beginning of March, or any port from which she can reach the north end of the Molucca or Gillolo passages, or Dampiers Strait, between the middle of December, and the middle of March, will make a speedy passage to any part of the Pacific Ocean in east longitude. And that, during all other seasons the passage is practicable by keeping northward of the equatorial current, and between the monsoon winds.

In the period of the west monsoon, northerly and

north-west winds prevail to the Cape of Good Hope of New Guinea. Passing eastward of this point the westerly wind will generally be experienced fresh and steady, with a current of two, or two and a half knots, running to the eastward, and extending from the New Guinea shore to about 1° north. A ship may pass near the St David Islands, without risk of losing this wind or current, and northward of Providence Islands. From hence any of the passages may be chosen according to discretion. That by the eastern Dampier Strait, although, perhaps the most direct if bound to Sydney, I should not recommend, until the islands northward of New Guinea are more correctly inserted. If St George's Channel be adopted, it may be preferable to steer along the line until in the longitude of the Admiralty Islands, then pass to the south-eastward, between these and Matthias Island, thus avoiding the low islands and reefs to the southward; sail could be carried during the night without fear. Keeping along the equator there cannot be many undiscovered dangers, this track having been a good deal frequented of late years. The other route to the northward of the Salomon Islands, when bound to New Zealand, the Feejee Islands, or anywhere to the eastward, appears to be the best. In the case of New Zealand, the tenth degree of south latitude should not be crossed, until reaching long. 171° or 172° east, then steer to the southward on the west side of the Feejee Islands, passing pretty near, as the easterly winds prevail far to the southward in January, February, and March; but by weathering the reefs near the south end of New Caledonia, a passage may always be effected.

The westerly monsoon in the Pacific, as in the Indian Ocean, is attended with cloudy overcast weather, squalls, and heavy rains. Some of these squalls are very severe, requiring all sail to be taken in when crossing the wind; even when running, close reefs will be found enough. I have experienced several near New Ireland and New Guinea, which generally gave warning, and commenced at W.S.W., blowing furiously the first hour, and continuing in a strong gale, veering to the north-west for five or six hours.

From lat. 10° S. to the southern tropic, hurricanes are likely to be experienced from November until April, agreeing also in this respect with the Indian Ocean; and I make no doubt but that one of these occasioned the loss of La Perouse and his fellow-voyagers. These scourges of the sea are more prevalent near the New Hebrides and New Caledonia, than the Feejee Group and Friendly Islands. In fact, the liability to hurricanes appears in exact ratio to that of the south-west monsoon, or, rather, to the meridians in which the westerly monsoon blows, differing in latitude; the monsoon seldom extending beyond 17° or 18° south, indeed, at times, 13° south is the limit, whereas hurricanes are experienced as far as the tropic. From all that I can gather of these hurricanes of the South Pacific, having conversed with several masters who have encountered them, some of whom have had their ships dismasted, I scarcely think they are of that terrific description occasionally experienced elsewhere; and am almost inclined to believe them more often and more severely felt near the islands than well clear of the land, although aware of this disagreeing

with the new theory ; but future facts will be necessary to elucidate this subject.

They are still of unfrequent occurrence in the Pacific, several years intervening without any ship encountering one. I possess no facts which would be serviceable in pointing out their track or direction of rotation. They will, without doubt, be considered to agree with other places in the same latitude, yet a few more well authenticated descriptions of these southern hurricanes would not appear to encumber the evidence of their uniformity in these particulars.

Near the Friendly Islands, (and perhaps elsewhere,) storms occasionally happen of extreme violence, blowing from one point, and producing similar effects to hurricanes. In November, 1835, eight or ten ships, English and American, encountered one of these near Tongataboo and Eooa from S.S.E., the heavy part of which lasted about eight hours, causing more or less damage to all ; one or two were dismasted. It was described by the masters whom I saw, which included most of them, as being more severe than any thing they had ever seen. Ashore at Eooa, it was most violent—houses and trees blown down, and all the crops destroyed. It likewise did great damage at Tongataboo, and was also felt very severely at the Hapai Islands and Vavaoo. Here Mr. Thomas, the missionary, was obliged to shore his house up, although it was considered by the natives that a gradual decrease in strength had been experienced in proceeding northward. Still further north the *Nassau* encountered it in 16° N., in the shape of a heavy gale. At all these places the wind was from the southward,—

S.S.E. by the ships: ashore they had no compasses, but it certainly was from the southward, and without shifting. I have thus endeavoured to be explicit, through an impression that more is required to be known of hurricanes and gales in localities; and, having a strong belief that many of the hurricanes, even those producing the most disastrous effects, will be found very local.

Reverting again to the north-west monsoon,—at the Salomon Archipelago it commences in December or January. In some years these months are tolerably fine. During February and March, strong winds with severe squalls and heavy rains may be expected. April generally is a fine month, with variable winds; also in May there is a good deal of fine weather. The south-east monsoon sets in strongly in June, with heavy rains and squalls, and continues so until the end of August; in all these months, nevertheless, there are considerable intervals of fine weather. In September the strength of the monsoon is spent, and the weather is more moderate from this time until the return of the north-wester.

Farther to the eastward, about the meridian of Rotumah, the westerly monsoon is less constant, beginning generally in January, and blowing strongly about seventeen or eighteen days consecutively,—then declining; and, the easterly wind returning in a fresh breeze for nearly the same period, the westerly wind again intervenes, usually commencing with a gale, and always continuing in a strong breeze with squalls and rain; the easterly and westerly winds thus alternating until the end of March, when the south-east trade sets in steadily. Proceeding still further to the eastward, the westerly

monsoon gradually becomes less constant, and finally disappears, I think, somewhere about the meridian of the Marquesas Islands.

Of currents I can only speak in very general terms, these being subject to great changes in many localities. From 1° or 2° north to about 3° south, a current of two or three knots an hour prevails, taking its course from the wind, which is easterly during the greater part of the year; current, therefore, westerly. I have, however, experienced an exception to this,—in July, 1833, on the Equator, in long. 175° E., a current of about the strength already mentioned, ran to the eastward for fourteen or fifteen days, although the wind was then fresh from the eastward; and, I believe, such changes have generally occurred once a year, probably induced by a strong southwest or westerly monsoon in north latitude, reaching at this time near the line. They are fitful changes, and not to be depended on, nor can I state their extent eastward.

In other parts of this ocean, *well clear of the land*, there appears to be very little current. Mr. Horsburgh speaks of a drain to leeward, and this seems to express all there is. Indeed, I think the swell may almost account for it; therefore it is obviously not such a serious matter to fall to leeward in the trades as may be imagined; almost any ship with perseverance may work to windward, the wind varying considerably, and veering at times far to the southward. For instance, in April I have worked up in a dull sailing and leewardly ship from the reefs off New Caledonia to the west side of the Feejee Group. From thence, in June, to the islands, called by the natives, Fotuna and Alloaffy, (marked in one as Alluffalli in

the chart,) and from thence to Wallis Island. Moderate westerly winds of two or three days' duration happen in nearly every month.

Off the islands, so far as my observation extends, the currents decrease in strength in proportion to the increase in latitude, that is, the nearer to the Equator, the stronger the current, and generally with the wind. There are no doubt many exceptions, but without an account of each island, which I am unable to give, no statement can embrace all the particulars, yet one or two instances of such deviation may be mentioned. Cruising to the southward of New Georgia and Bougainville Islands, throughout the south-east monsoon from May until October, in the years 1836 and 1840, the current ran strongly to the south-east against a strong wind and heavy swell, although at the same time on the north side of these islands it was running as strongly to the westward. Off the north side of New Ireland, where a westerly current prevails, changes to the eastward occur, for ten or twelve days at all seasons.

In concluding these remarks, I may be permitted to hope that some of your readers will follow them up. The winds of the western part of the North Pacific seem very imperfectly known. No statement has appeared of the eastern limit of the south-west monsoon; it certainly enters this Ocean. In June I ran to the northward, keeping about 3° eastward of the Philippines, with a fresh and steady breeze from south-west. The same wind prevailed until reaching 27° north and 138° east.

Guam and the other islands of the Ladrone Group, are also understood to be subject to hurricanes, for which

the inhabitants prepare by lashing down and securing their houses; yet the seasons at which these are most likely to be experienced, are not generally known. Having only crossed this locality once or twice in making passages, I can merely give hearsay evidence. The present governor of Lamboangan, who has resided in Guam two years, (in the same capacity,) informs me that in June, July, and August, also in December and January, they are expected. December, 1832, the *Japan*, a new ship, encountered a severe hurricane in 13° north and about 160° west, the meridian of some of the Sandwich Islands, in which she was totally dismasted, and fears were entertained of her weathering it. This is the farthest to the eastward in the North Pacific of which I have heard."

VOCABULARIES.

VOCABULARY OF THE LIFU LANGUAGE.

Awitha. Give me
Atowhat. Large
Atreganah. A thief
Awayatee. Yes
Chelledah. Stand up
Comedah. Take it
Deathan. What name
Dohu. A chief
Eka. A shirt
Eeningay. A calabash
Eah. Fire
Emmoimo. Sandal wood
Eenah. Me
Enowilli. What do you say
Feau. A woman
Hucha. A rock or shoal
Hae. A ship
Hetah. A stone
Kongahzu. Bad
Kachea. Broken
Koko. Yams
Kaka. Father
Kah. Sister
Lolopeh. Good
Lapadu. Sit down
Leng. Firewood
Lueah. No more

Maesheer. Dead
Makaledu. To sleep
Mesheenty. I'll kill you
Meeme. Brother
Neneap. To run
Nonggatha. Salt water
Neu. Cocoa-nuts
Nuuba. You
Neenah. Mother
Naycong. Son
Pago. No
Panasaydu. By and bye
Papahlie. English
Quadadah. Tell me
Senah tassah. Red cloth
Trumman. Men
Thubarasaet. A boy
Thatheen. A virgin
Troamee. Come here
Troddah. Go
Teem. Fresh water
Towah. To fight
Trohalapea. Go on shore
Tromahanechan. Come and eat
Uumah. A house
Wythemint. Bananas
Winnegint. Green cocoa-nuts.

VOCABULARY OF THE UEA LANGUAGE.

<i>An.</i> Fresh water	<i>Eenah.</i> Me
<i>Amakuth.</i> Dead	<i>Fruut.</i> To sleep
<i>Akung.</i> Bad	<i>Guh.</i> Iron
<i>Agan.</i> Large	<i>Hadah.</i> To go
<i>Asaheah.</i> Plenty	<i>Hongeam.</i> Give me
<i>Ahow.</i> To day	<i>Huu.</i> A ship
<i>Abah.</i> No	<i>Halae.</i> A knife
<i>Abah wata.</i> No sandal wood	<i>Humdah.</i> Take it
<i>Asahea wata.</i> Plenty of sandal wood	<i>Iuu.</i> To come
<i>Abah thoy.</i> It is true	<i>Iuu mahan.</i> Come and eat
<i>Ang.</i> The wind	<i>Ietch.</i> To drink
<i>Amagae.</i> Warm	<i>Kayeen.</i> Salt water
<i>Agamakuchu.</i> I'll kill you	<i>Keah.</i> A calabash
<i>Akua.</i> Sugar-cane	<i>Koat.</i> Kill him
<i>A.</i> Yes	<i>Kluma.</i> To laugh
<i>Baleaway.</i> A canoe	<i>Koining.</i> Tarro
<i>Boedelah.</i> Red cloth	<i>Lapadue.</i> Sit down
<i>Buy.</i> Mother	<i>Momo.</i> A woman
<i>Cheelok.</i> Biche de mer	<i>May.</i> A reef or rock
<i>Cheecha.</i> Father	<i>Maich.</i> Fire
<i>Cahum.</i> To bring	<i>Makenany.</i> Sick
<i>Chingho.</i> To sneeze	<i>Machanan.</i> By and bye
<i>Dah.</i> A boy	<i>Mokurru.</i> Lie down
<i>Een.</i> A girl	<i>Mocuut.</i> To sleep
<i>Ewenu.</i> Cocoa-nuts	<i>Makaech.</i> Cold
<i>Esso.</i> Good	<i>Nabuth.</i> Let go
<i>Enucong.</i> Small	<i>Nacook.</i> Son
<i>Eyne.</i> Yesterday	<i>Nyee.</i> To-morrow
<i>Esso withang.</i> A good wind	<i>O boga.</i> Men
	<i>Oheenmat.</i> Bananas

Otheobut. Good bye
Ohigh. To yawn
Sodue. No more
Tawanthan. A chief
Thoy. A lie
Toda. Rise up
Uu. Yams,—also, you
Uimah. A house

Uusellat. A looking-glass
Venue. A thief
Wata. Sandal wood
Wah. Fish
Wylay. Sweet potatoes
Wakeen. Beads
Wagah. Fish hooks.

NUMERALS.

Hacha. One
Lo. Two
Kuun. Three
Thack. Four
Thabumb. Five
Loacha. Six
Loalo. Seven
Lokuun. Eight
Lothack. Nine
Lebenetee. Ten

Hacha coach. Eleven
Lo coach. Twelve
Kuun coach. Thirteen
Thack coach. Fourteen
Thabumb coach. Fifteen
Hachawyhanu. Sixteen
Lowyhanu. Seventeen
Kuunwyhanu. Eighteen
Thackwyhanu. Nineteen
Thabumwyhanu. Twenty.

VOCABULARY OF THE STEWART ISLANDS LANGUAGE.

<i>Arramy.</i> Come here	<i>De faree.</i> A house
<i>Akoay.</i> You	<i>De wahka.</i> A canoe
<i>Akoay efanu kefea.</i> Where are you going	<i>De babah.</i> Brown biche de mer
<i>Akoay efanu fyacke de aleke keou</i> <i>moua e tara tara.</i> You go tell	<i>De neu.</i> Cocoa-nuts
the king, or chief, to come and	<i>De uffee.</i> Sweet potatoes
speak to me	<i>Delah.</i> There
<i>Akoay say loto.</i> Are you angry	<i>De affee.</i> Fire
<i>Akoay feefy olala kawa.</i> Do you	<i>De ata.</i> Daylight
like to make biche de mer	<i>De bo.</i> Dark
<i>Akoay na wowa.</i> What do you want	<i>De ou.</i> Morning
<i>Akoa feefy ñou co noho.</i> Do you	<i>De bo ney.</i> To-night
like me to stop	<i>De tamana.</i> Father
<i>Akoay ketay.</i> Do you see	<i>De nana.</i> Mother
<i>Akoay feefy.</i> Do you like	<i>De havee.</i> Sister
<i>Aguh.</i> Mine	<i>De kniffée.</i> A knife
<i>Akoay say ta tama.</i> Will you not	<i>Deney koeye.</i> Who is this
strike the men	<i>De mya.</i> Rope
<i>Akoay fana efo teatho feah.</i> What	<i>De feete.</i> A musket
day did you come here	<i>De powda.</i> Gunpowder
<i>Akoay tawee.</i> You pay	<i>De lead.</i> Lead
<i>Allo.</i> To pull, or paddle	<i>De fat tara tara.</i> Coral
<i>Boburannee.</i> A reef	<i>De fatu.</i> A stone
<i>Booka booka.</i> A book	<i>De burrah.</i> Thatch
<i>Boto boto.</i> Short	<i>De baba.</i> A trunk
<i>Calico.</i> Calico	<i>De toggah.</i> A looking-glass
<i>De alecke.</i> A chief	<i>De rayhuh.</i> Lime
	<i>De ka wusu.</i> A bow
	<i>De nu sou.</i> An arrow

<i>De tau.</i> A spear	<i>Elowie tatow ke tyyah.</i> It is good
<i>De burou.</i> A hat	for us to kill him
<i>De ou.</i> Smoke	<i>Fafeenie.</i> A woman
<i>De matanee.</i> The wind	<i>Fano keuta.</i> Go on shore
<i>De kurru.</i> Bread-fruit	<i>Fuelanie.</i> Beads
<i>De fenuah.</i> The land	<i>Fayatuh.</i> To fight
<i>De futee.</i> Bananas	<i>Fakasenu keraro.</i> Lie down
<i>De tama.</i> A man	<i>Faytuh.</i> The stars
<i>De pee.</i> Arrow-root	<i>Fakareresee.</i> To lie
<i>De toto.</i> Blood	<i>Fatu maka.</i> Pearls
<i>Day ney.</i> This	<i>Fokawarea.</i> A fool
<i>De keore.</i> A rat	<i>Fymafee.</i> Strong
<i>De murc mea.</i> Firewood	<i>Fakarearea.</i> Weak
<i>Deney seah.</i> What is the name of	<i>Fyackie.</i> To tell
this?	<i>Fouremah.</i> A shirt
<i>Delah kowy.</i> Who is there	<i>Fowwy.</i> Trousers
<i>Delah sa wakka kowy d-irromy.</i>	<i>Fakaterree.</i> To slack a rope
Who is coming here in that	<i>Fafa.</i> Tarro
canoe?	<i>Fano fyackie efano efo.</i> Go and
<i>Deney da fenuah feah.</i> What is-	tell him to come here
land is this	<i>Fymyke anou.</i> He told me
<i>De oubu.</i> A cocoa-nut shell	<i>Feah.</i> What
<i>De peko peko.</i> Cocoa-nut husks	<i>Guhotee.</i> All
<i>De aleke, say fano efo de wakka e</i>	<i>Huna huna.</i> Speckled biche de mer
<i>tabu.</i> The chief cannot come,	<i>Huree.</i> Turn over
for he is tabooed	<i>Kowy domaree.</i> What is your
<i>Douwah.</i> Rain	name
<i>Eyloah ennou.</i> I understand	<i>Konnou.</i> Me
<i>Elowie.</i> Good	<i>Kouatu.</i> To give
<i>E urrie.</i> Black	<i>Kowmy.</i> Give me
<i>E ma.</i> White	<i>Kawah.</i> Biche de mer
<i>Eye yah.</i> What for	<i>Kuratuma.</i> Black ditto
<i>Efeea.</i> How many	<i>Ky.</i> To eat
<i>Ery keraro.</i> Go down	<i>Keeah.</i> Holloa
<i>Ennou kafanu.</i> I am going	<i>Kyyah.</i> To steal
<i>Ennou ketay.</i> I see	<i>Konnou feefy.</i> I like
<i>Eloweena.</i> That is good	<i>Kakenokeno.</i> Bad

<i>Kakee hearuna.</i> Go up	<i>Meetee meetee.</i> To smoke tobacco
<i>Katah.</i> To laugh	<i>Mowah.</i> He and I
<i>Kahmatu.</i> Old cocoa-nuts	<i>Neelouh.</i> I do not know
<i>Ketay.</i> To see	<i>Nohuggelaro.</i> Sit down
<i>Koeje fyutu.</i> Who says so	<i>Naneu.</i> Large
<i>Keere keere.</i> Shingle	<i>Na ky.</i> Food
<i>Karematta.</i> The eye	<i>Noho.</i> Stop or stay
<i>Koeje.</i> Who	<i>Ney, or nay.</i> This
<i>Kewavee.</i> Quick	<i>Na ho mata.</i> Let me look
<i>Kakow.</i> To swim	<i>Okuwow.</i> To return
<i>Kurelee.</i> To fly	<i>O.</i> Yes
<i>Koeje now owa.</i> What do you want	<i>Ounah.</i> Tortoise-shell
<i>Konnou now okala kawa.</i> I have	<i>Ofakareutu.</i> To teach
come to make biche de mer	<i>Onnou feefy hotou he pe penna da</i>
<i>Konnou say loto.</i> I am not angry	<i>fare.</i> I wish you all to build a
<i>Kowy domaree de aleka.</i> What is	house
the chief's name	<i>Piggee.</i> A pig
<i>Ke.</i> He	<i>Pepenna.</i> To make
<i>Kowruah no efo teatho feah.</i> What	<i>Penuh penuh.</i> Goods
day did you two come	<i>Pasouruh.</i> The head
<i>Koutou o tyjah.</i> You kill him	<i>Rakou.</i> Wood
<i>Kow ruah olo.</i> You two go	<i>Syaree.</i> Go
<i>Kefea.</i> Where	<i>See afeah.</i> By and bye
<i>Liggee liggee.</i> Small	<i>Sayeye.</i> No
<i>Leueneuoa.</i> Howes group.	<i>Seegootee.</i> More
<i>Luppe.</i> A pigeon	<i>Sayfeefy.</i> I do not like
<i>Masana.</i> Hawk's-bill turtle	<i>Say fakarerese.</i> It is true
<i>Masanee hearunah.</i> Rise up	<i>Sakaroroa.</i> Long
<i>Matakuh.</i> Afraid	<i>Sikyana.</i> Stewart's Islands
<i>Moy.</i> To sleep	<i>Saynanafee.</i> Yesterday
<i>Moa.</i> A domestic fowl	<i>Say pee.</i> Not full
<i>Mirrimah.</i> The moon	<i>Seah.</i> What name
<i>Matow.</i> Fish-hooks	<i>Searah.</i> What do you say
<i>Makareede.</i> Cold	<i>Seah tawee.</i> What price
<i>Mafanah.</i> Warm	<i>Tanata.</i> Men
<i>Matou feefy.</i> We like to make it	<i>Tama lygee lygee.</i> A boy
<i>Matou say feefy.</i> We do not like	<i>Tamafeena.</i> A girl

<i>To.</i>	To take	<i>Teathoney.</i>	To-day
<i>Torro.</i>	Sugar-cane	<i>Tama a ma.</i>	A white man
<i>Tamakee.</i>	Plenty	<i>Totokah.</i>	A door
<i>Toyee toyee.</i>	Scarce	<i>Tha sou.</i>	Lift up
<i>Toga.</i>	To look	<i>Tuguh.</i>	Put it down
<i>Tela.</i>	The sun	<i>Tugowy.</i>	I don't want it
<i>Tyyah.</i>	To kill	<i>Tutu akoay.</i>	You cut it
<i>Tyyow.</i>	To-morrow	<i>Tutu.</i>	To cut
<i>Tynah.</i>	Brother	<i>Tow.</i>	Your
<i>Taguh.</i>	An axe	<i>Tawah.</i>	You and I
<i>Tomy.</i>	To bring	<i>Tatow.</i>	We
<i>Telah.</i>	A sail	<i>Teatho.</i>	A day
<i>Tafallo.</i>	A bottle	<i>Uufeya.</i>	Sick
<i>Tara tara.</i>	To speak	<i>Uumate.</i>	Dead
<i>Tawee.</i>	Payment	<i>Uufutee.</i>	To pull, or haul
<i>Tow rikharikka.</i>	Handsome	<i>Uunuh.</i>	To drink
<i>Teeakee.</i>	Let go	<i>Uupee.</i>	Full
<i>Ta offee.</i>	Hold on	<i>Uguh.</i>	To dive
<i>Terree.</i>	To run	<i>Worowora.</i>	Sandal wood
<i>Teefah.</i>	Pearl oysters	<i>Wymowree.</i>	Fresh water
<i>Ta.</i>	To strike	<i>Wyty.</i>	Salt water
<i>Tukunah.</i>	A plane	<i>Wakka.</i>	A canoe.
<i>Tosoah.</i>	A friend		

NUMERALS.

<i>Tahi.</i>	One	<i>Ma ta ruah.</i>	Twenty
<i>Ruah.</i>	Two	<i>Ma ta toruh.</i>	Thirty
<i>Toruh.</i>	Three	<i>Ma ta fah.</i>	Forty
<i>Fah.</i>	Four	<i>Ma ta leema.</i>	Fifty
<i>Leemah.</i>	Five	<i>Ma ta ono.</i>	Sixty
<i>Ono.</i>	Six	<i>Ma ta feetu.</i>	Seventy
<i>Feetu.</i>	Seven	<i>Ma ta waruh.</i>	Eighty
<i>Waruh.</i>	Eight	<i>Ma ta seewo.</i>	Ninety
<i>Seewo.</i>	Nine	<i>Low.</i>	One hundred
<i>Katawa.</i>	Ten	<i>Ruah low.</i>	Two hundred

Toruh low. Three hundred

Fah low. Four hundred

Leema low. Five hundred

Ono low. Six hundred

Feetu low. Seven hundred

Waruh low. Eight hundred

Seevo low. Nine hundred

Seematta. One thousand

Ruah seematta. Two thousand

Toruh seematta. Three thousand

Fah seematta. Four thousand

Leema seematta. Five thousand

Ono seematta. Six thousand

Feetu seematta. Seven thousand

Waruh seematta. Eight thousand

Secvo seematta. Nine thousand.

This language is also spoken by the inhabitants of Howes Group.

VOCABULARY OF THE EDDYSTONE
ISLAND LANGUAGE.

<i>Arra.</i> Me	<i>Gawaso.</i> The sun
<i>Agu.</i> You	<i>Gonggona.</i> To speak
<i>A.</i> Yes	<i>Gasu.</i> Long
<i>Avee.</i> Where	<i>Horee.</i> Go on shore
<i>Avea.</i> What do you want	<i>Kumbru.</i> A boy
<i>Avahgonuh.</i> What do you mean	<i>Kapurree.</i> No
<i>Akenatu.</i> Quick	<i>Kapu.</i> Tortoise-shell
<i>Bangara.</i> A chief	<i>Kaveea.</i> More
<i>Boorra.</i> A pig	<i>Kokeraku.</i> A domestic fowl
<i>Bargu.</i> A pigeon	<i>Keelee keelee.</i> A tomahawk
<i>Bongee.</i> To night	<i>Takeva.</i> Beads
<i>Belu.</i> Lime	<i>Kow.</i> Wood
<i>Bokala.</i> A bow	<i>Keeko.</i> Lead
<i>Batta jungana.</i> Handsome	<i>Kunru.</i> Black
<i>Beta.</i> Bread-fruit	<i>Kalla.</i> Red
<i>Domma.</i> To look	<i>Kebu.</i> A musical instrument
<i>Dolu.</i> A trunk, or box	<i>Keenda.</i> The stars
<i>Dynggo.</i> I don't like	<i>Kelee.</i> A pearl oyster
<i>Ewerree.</i> Salt water	<i>Lulum.</i> Father
<i>Endah.</i> Cocoa-nuts	<i>Leenda.</i> A knife
<i>Eteckee.</i> Small	<i>Loee.</i> Let go
<i>Eko.</i> To steal	<i>Lawata.</i> Great
<i>Eku.</i> Fire	<i>Myo.</i> To come
<i>Elewa.</i> A book	<i>Maraan.</i> A man
<i>Embru.</i> Betel-nut	<i>Manggota.</i> A woman
<i>Ekarenah.</i> Bad	<i>Mola.</i> A canoe
<i>Gowmanga.</i> Sandal-wood	<i>Mulee.</i> To return
<i>Gallegan.</i> To eat	<i>Matee.</i> Sick

Menjah. To kill
Manggotanna. Sister
Meeo. An axe
Maty. A reef or shoal
Ngaru. A girl
Nonggaree. I understand
Neninggo. Scarce
Nenonso. Food
Opuree. A spear
Ogoro. Rain
Ogana. To bathe
Putu. To sleep
Pukah. Biche de mer
Peea. Fresh water
Panaky. Sweet potatoes
Penjee. Sugar-cane
Pabee. Where are you going
Peen. Here
Pora. There
Py. Plenty
Popu. The moon
Poko. Calico
Pyu. A bottle
Paka. A musket
Pesu. Gunpowder
Patu. A stone
Pebu. Lie down
Peeala. To smoke tobacco
Papaka. Short
Roo. To go
Roondoma. Dark
Raanee. To-day
Rory. Coral
Sava. What
Sawaru. What for
Seeou. What name

Teku teku. To take
Tumbelow. I do not know
Tonggo. Sit down
Toru. Rise up
Tamassee. Large
Tomakee. To make
Teesa. He
Tangaku. Daylight
Tawetee. Mother
Tamana. Brother
Teenana. Who is that
Tava. Reeds, or rattans
Tepee. A sail
Teeteerona. A looking-glass
Torupy. A hat
Tula. Smoke
Tarra. The wind
Tungee. Hold on
Tomee. Go down
Umbeta. All
Umbana. An arrow
Ugasu. Land
Venna. To give
Vennu. Give me
Verra. By and bye
Veve. Rope
Wanu. A house
Wakka. A ship
Wogo. To-morrow
Wetu. A fish-hook
Waggee waggee. Payment
Wountee. Bananas
Wotu. Go up
Yampo. Dead
Zemeere. White

NUMERALS.

Kamee. One
Karu. Two
Kuay. Three
Mantee. Four
Leema. Five

Wouama. Six
Weetu. Seven
Kahu. Eight
Seang. Nine
Manosa. Ten.

VOCABULARY OF THE BORNABI LANGUAGE.

<i>Arramas.</i> Men	<i>Enting.</i> A book
<i>Ari.</i> Enough. That will do	<i>Erring.</i> Old cocoa-nuts
<i>Allatcher.</i> There is no more	<i>Gola.</i> To go
<i>Aramas a mal.</i> A slave, or labourer	<i>Gola nan chaap.</i> Go on shore
<i>Aleck.</i> Reeds, or small bambo	<i>Gotawy.</i> Go up
<i>Atinieye.</i> Smoke	<i>Goteewy.</i> Go down
<i>Broto.</i> Come back	<i>Goleya.</i> Where are you going
<i>But a but.</i> White	<i>Hugowy.</i> You go away
<i>Bout.</i> A wife	<i>Huta.</i> Rise up
<i>Bui bui.</i> A fool	<i>Huti mas.</i> Stop a little
<i>Bong.</i> Night	<i>Honi.</i> A departed spirit
<i>Bit a bit.</i> Quick	<i>Iron pot.</i> Iron pot
<i>Bukha bukha.</i> To like	<i>Ikah.</i> I don't like
<i>Chywy, or kywy.</i> Pull away	<i>Jobyti.</i> A chief
<i>Chaap.</i> Land	<i>Jyrrimaun.</i> A boy
<i>Cho.</i> No	<i>Jyrripeyn.</i> A girl
<i>Cholaar.</i> Is there no more	<i>Jhob.</i> A ship
<i>Chila.</i> A chisel	<i>Jou mow.</i> Sick
<i>Chila banga banga.</i> An axe	<i>Jownabung.</i> The moon
<i>Edgatum.</i> What name	<i>Jherryk.</i> A mat sail
<i>Ea.</i> Where	<i>Jacko.</i> Kava, or grog
<i>E-jug.</i> A water-jug, or calabash	<i>Jacko in wy.</i> Distilled spirits
<i>E-ting.</i> To write, or tattoo	<i>Jobyti Lappelap.</i> A high chief
<i>Etch.</i> Which, or whom	<i>Koto.</i> To come
<i>Eyeo.</i> Yesterday	<i>Kyto.</i> Come here
<i>Etch kowa.</i> Who are you	<i>Kajinibut.</i> Tortoise-shell
<i>E-jug.</i> A bottle	<i>Kachalell.</i> Handsome
	<i>Karuchia.</i> All, or every one

<i>Koba.</i> A trunk, or box	<i>Katow ban koto.</i> The rain is coming
<i>Kaal.</i> A man's dress	<i>Katerpin ban kara kara.</i> The sun is hot
<i>Kowa.</i> You	<i>Lappilap.</i> Great
<i>Kowa gola wata ny war.</i> You go fetch my canoe	<i>Li.</i> A woman
<i>Katchin.</i> A little	<i>Likou.</i> Calico
<i>Kita.</i> Give me	<i>Likouti.</i> A woman's dress
<i>Kowa golawata katchyn piel.</i> You go bring a little fresh water	<i>Loach.</i> A sleeping mat
<i>Kiang.</i> To give	<i>Lockup.</i> To-morrow
<i>Kowa kiang.</i> You give	<i>Lokya.</i> To speak
<i>Kummela.</i> To kill	<i>Lyppirap.</i> To steal
<i>Kajinieye.</i> Fire	<i>Lead.</i> Lead
<i>Katerpin.</i> The sun	<i>Lakumpot.</i> A liar
<i>Kow.</i> A mast	<i>Lekapasina.</i> Red biche de mer
<i>Kiam.</i> A basket	<i>Longun.</i> Inferior biche de mer
<i>Kaput.</i> A knife	<i>Monti.</i> Sit down
<i>Kojack.</i> A musket	<i>Merilah.</i> To sleep
<i>Kojack lappilap.</i> A cannon	<i>Maam.</i> Fish
<i>Kelaneyo.</i> A long time ago	<i>Menika.</i> Biche de mer
<i>Kaap.</i> Yams	<i>Mahi.</i> Bread-fruit
<i>Kara kara.</i> Hot	<i>Mejiwate.</i> Bad
<i>Katchyn chou.</i> Sugar-cane	<i>Mamow.</i> Good
<i>Kajiniang.</i> Turmeric	<i>Maryry.</i> Long
<i>Kappen.</i> Captain	<i>Mutamut.</i> Short
<i>Kalang.</i> To look	<i>Madigidig.</i> Small
<i>Kowa kalang.</i> You look	<i>Malout.</i> Large
<i>Katchyn mata.</i> Fish-hooks	<i>Mutoto.</i> Plenty
<i>Katchyn koteu.</i> A bow, or arrow	<i>Munga.</i> Food
<i>Koteu.</i> A spear	<i>Mejilaar.</i> Dead
<i>Kajang.</i> A musical instrument	<i>Menta.</i> What do you mean
<i>Katow.</i> Rain	<i>Mat.</i> A reef
<i>Kajiniang.</i> The wind	<i>Melell.</i> It is true
<i>Koletti.</i> Hold on	<i>Malyk.</i> A domestic fowl
<i>Kappen ban kara kara.</i> The Captain is angry	<i>Muri.</i> A pigeon
	<i>Majeck.</i> Afraid

<i>Malolo.</i> Scarce	<i>Py.</i> Pearl oysters
<i>Menika wytata.</i> Red biche de mer	<i>Rieye.</i> Brother
	<i>Rieye li.</i> Sister
<i>Matap.</i> Smooth black biche de mer	<i>Rach a rach.</i> A saw
	<i>Raan.</i> Morning
<i>Meyn.</i> First quality biche de mer	<i>Raanawit.</i> To-day
<i>Nanjyt.</i> Salt water	<i>Shaal.</i> A rope
<i>Namenam.</i> To eat	<i>Shorup.</i> A hat
<i>Naniim.</i> A house	<i>Togota met.</i> What is that called
<i>Ny.</i> Me	<i>Tongata.</i> To come
<i>Num.</i> Your	<i>Tutu.</i> To bathe
<i>Nono.</i> Mother	<i>Ta.</i> What
<i>Nibung.</i> To-night	<i>Tontol.</i> Black
<i>Nyeyeriraniki.</i> I know	<i>Tucky.</i> A stone
<i>Ny tyraniki.</i> I don't know	<i>Tuur.</i> A native belt
<i>Nanamariki.</i> A king	<i>Ta ban pyn.</i> What is the price
<i>Nanikan.</i> A prime minister	<i>Tui or tuka.</i> Timber
<i>Ny bukka bukka.</i> I like	<i>Tabakkyr.</i> Tobacco
<i>Oot.</i> Bananas	<i>Tuka pomow.</i> Sandal wood
<i>Oach.</i> Thatch for a house	<i>Ta me coto in wea.</i> What do you want
<i>Ounapella.</i> Wild ginger	<i>Togato.</i> What do you mean
<i>Peyn.</i> Cocoa-nuts	<i>Ulyn.</i> A man
<i>Piel.</i> Fresh water	<i>Uchu.</i> The stars
<i>Pyn.</i> Payment or price	<i>Ulyn wy.</i> A white man
<i>Pukita.</i> What for	<i>Wenti.</i> Lie down
<i>Paba.</i> Father	<i>Wytata.</i> Red
<i>Pig.</i> A pig	<i>War.</i> A canoe
<i>Pig.</i> Sand	<i>Wata.</i> To bring
<i>Poroda.</i> Gunpowder	<i>Wawy.</i> Take it
<i>Paina.</i> Coral	<i>Wea.</i> A hawk's-bill turtle
<i>Pypo.</i> A tobacco-pipe	<i>Wiata.</i> To make or build
<i>Puyjang.</i> Let go	<i>Wan tuka.</i> Beads
<i>Penapen.</i> Speckled biche de mer	<i>War ma lout.</i> A war canoe
<i>Puil kara kara.</i> Boiling water.	<i>War ma digedig.</i> A small canoe.
This name is usually given to hot tea	

NUMERALS.

<i>Aat.</i> One	<i>Ket.</i> One thousand
<i>Ari.</i> Two	<i>Ri a ket.</i> Two thousand
<i>Echiil.</i> Three	<i>Chiil a ket.</i> Three thousand
<i>Abang.</i> Four	<i>Pa a ket.</i> Four thousand
<i>Eliim.</i> Five	<i>Liim a ket.</i> Five thousand
<i>Oan.</i> Six	<i>Oan a ket.</i> Six thousand
<i>Etch.</i> Seven	<i>Etch a ket.</i> Seven thousand
<i>Ewal.</i> Eight	<i>Ewal a ket.</i> Eight thousand
<i>Atuu.</i> Nine	<i>Atuu a ket.</i> Nine thousand
<i>Katingoul, or e jack.</i> Ten	<i>Nun.</i> Ten thousand
<i>Ri e jack.</i> Twenty	<i>Ri a ket, liim a buki, eliim.</i>
<i>Chiil e jack.</i> Thirty	2,505
<i>Pa e jack.</i> Forty	<i>Liim a ket, atuu e jack.</i> 5,090
<i>Liim e jack.</i> Fifty	<i>Pa a ket, pa a buki, pa e jack.</i>
<i>Oan e jack.</i> Sixty	4,440
<i>Etch e jack.</i> Seventy	<i>Chiil a ket, chiil e jack.</i> 3,030
<i>Ewal e jack.</i> Eighty	<i>Atuu a ket, etch a buki, pa e jack.</i>
<i>Atuu e jack.</i> Ninety	9,740
<i>A buki.</i> One hundred	<i>Oan a ket, oan a buki, oan e jack.</i>
<i>Ri a buki.</i> Two hundred	6,660
<i>Chiil a buki.</i> Three hundred	<i>Etch a ket, ewal a buki, atuu</i>
<i>Pa a buki.</i> Four hundred	7,809
<i>Liim a buki.</i> Five hundred	<i>Nun, ri a buki, ri e jack.</i> 10,220
<i>Oan a buki.</i> Six hundred	<i>Nun, pa a buki, chiil e jack.</i>
<i>Etch a buki.</i> Seven hundred	10,430
<i>Ewal a buki.</i> Eight hundred	<i>Nun, atuu a buki, atuu e jack.</i>
<i>Atuu a buki.</i> Nine hundred	10,990.

Throughout this Vocabulary a is to be sounded as in hat; e as in ever; i as in equity; and u as in supple.

VOCABULARY OF THE YAP LANGUAGE.

Arumasiep. A knife
Athue. A man's dress
Betur. A boy
Beyot. A musket
Brungatu. Black
Coconang. I understand
Delack. A spear
Enep. To-night
Eyou. Cocoa-nut leaves
Fakak. A friend
Fowap. Yesterday
Fanou. To go
Fafitracin. White
Gheak. Me
Kuer. You
Kabuul. To-morrow
Kytmy. Enough
Kokue. To look
Kirtow. Tattoo
Kapung. A cannon
Kassie. I don't want it
Lokuul. Bleche de mer
Langeleth. The day after to-mor-
row
Lute. Firewood
Moy. To come
Minniefithingam. What name
Mangenenum. By and bye
Minmillie. Kill him
Mal. Tarro

Muu. A canoe, or proa
Mohe. To speak
Moer. Bambo
Munum. To drink
Mocoy. To eat
Muat. Calico
Manafect. To bring
Meylor. A glass bottle
Neu. Cocoa-nuts
Naun. A house
Navu. Fire
Ow. Twine
Oung. A woman's dress
Penock. Give me
Pelung. A chief
Papeen. A woman
Pemmoan. A man
Pennageam. Quick
Pakah. Large
Peejeejesh. Small
Poar. Plenty
Puel. The moon
Pringaboot. Sit down
Rukuth. A girl
Rugullien. I'll kill you
Raan. Fresh water
Rou. Red
Surie. To go
Sorok. It is time
Thamupea. I don't like

VOCABULARIES.

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<i>Thackunang.</i>	I don't know	<i>Trueah.</i>	Beads
<i>Toar.</i>	To-day	<i>Venow.</i>	A village
<i>Tupe.</i>	Green cocoa-nuts	<i>Wasy.</i>	A chisel
<i>Tohoch.</i>	Yams	<i>Walaw.</i>	The teeth
<i>Tow.</i>	An axe	<i>I'am.</i>	Dead
<i>Tal.</i>	A rope	<i>Yar.</i>	A sail.
<i>Tulong.</i>	Rise up		

NUMERALS.

<i>Taraps.</i>	One	<i>Madaliep.</i>	Seven
<i>Arou.</i>	Two	<i>Mearuke.</i>	Eight
<i>Thaliep.</i>	Three	<i>Meareap.</i>	Nine
<i>Anengake.</i>	Four	<i>Arakah.</i>	Ten
<i>A-lal.</i>	Five	<i>Rahie.</i>	One hundred
<i>A-neal.</i>	Six	<i>Bhuiou.</i>	One thousand.

VOCABULARY OF THE PALLOU ISLAND LANGUAGE.

<i>Amsal.</i> By and bye	<i>Et mollock.</i> Deep
<i>Amingowl.</i> A concubine	<i>Engara.</i> What
<i>Aolt.</i> The wind	<i>Guay.</i> He
<i>Apuel.</i> The moon	<i>Gualack.</i> Children
<i>Agaleth.</i> Biche de mer	<i>Imly.</i> A canoe
<i>Arthiel.</i> A woman	<i>Karrathow.</i> Go away
<i>Arrakath.</i> Men	<i>Kybakle.</i> A chisel
<i>Asakkal.</i> A man	<i>Karr.</i> Gunpowder
<i>Athungan.</i> Firewood	<i>Kakeray.</i> Small
<i>Alukas.</i> A reef, or shoal	<i>Klow.</i> Large
<i>Atutow.</i> Daylight	<i>Kow.</i> You
<i>A-rack.</i> A friend	<i>Kyroko.</i> A fish-hook
<i>Akeel.</i> A rope	<i>Kosond.</i> A comb
<i>Are ingee.</i> There is	<i>Kalakang.</i> To-day
<i>Boyus.</i> A musket	<i>Klu kuuk.</i> To-morrow
<i>Bouk.</i> Betel-nut	<i>Kapasingay.</i> To-night, evening
<i>Babee.</i> A pig	<i>Kakamangal.</i> Long
<i>Bumgeeay.</i> Sit down	<i>Kakathape.</i> Short
<i>Bose.</i> A boat	<i>Kyleeseep.</i> Yesterday
<i>Bishow.</i> Give you	<i>Kalmull.</i> Barrier reef
<i>Biskak.</i> Give me	<i>Kaeltang.</i> Which
<i>Deak mathingay.</i> I don't know	<i>Kabue.</i> Betel-nut leaves
<i>Deak atech.</i> I do not like	<i>Karaal.</i> Payment
<i>Deak atem.</i> You do not like	<i>Klallo.</i> Goods, or things
<i>Deak ateel.</i> He does not like	<i>Klallo kleak.</i> My goods
<i>Dayseeshew.</i> All the same	<i>Klallo kleam.</i> Your goods
<i>Eehwy.</i> A very stout woman	<i>Klallo klel.</i> His goods
<i>Engara mu karaal.</i> What price	<i>Klubaguel.</i> A club

Killseekill. What for
Keeth. Us, or we
Kow mur. Where are you going
Kasuse. To-night
Kaseep. Warm
Klow. Large
Klow rupack. A king
Klow boyus. A cannon
Leek. Mine
Leem. Yours
Leel. His
May. To come
Murrah. To go
Mathangay. I understand
Mungah. To eat
Murrahathow. Quick
Myrrakoro. A thief
Milliem. To drink.
Muur. Cocoa-nuts
Malokoy. To speak
Mal. Very
Mammuth. Calico
Mathey. Dead
Mul may. To bring
Merakung. Enough
Macneat. Bad
Mackywuy. To sleep
Mopath. To lie down
Millsang. Give him
Maruel. To make
Mews. To pull, or paddle
Moduck. Strong
Murra ma keth. Go on shore
Maketh. Shore, or dry land
Murra key. Go fishing
Malaamuk. To chew
Motuuk. Plenty

May keeth a murra pelew. Come
 we will go to town
Marial. Go on, or walk on
Momace. To look
Memakesang. Let me look
Ngou. Fire
Nekill. Fish
Nak. Me
Narakay. Where
Ouse. Lime, or chunam
Oleiss. A knife
Olakang. An iron pot
Peaback. Plenty
Packasuel. A lie
Ply. A house
Pelew. A village
Put deas. Rise up
Peath. A stone
Posoas. A paddle
Pukeck. My wife
Pukeem. Your wife
Pukeel. His wife
Ralm. Fresh water
Ringa ringa. A fool
Rial. A road, or passage
Rassack. Blood
Rupack. A chief
Say. There
Swam. You like
Swack. I like
Swal. He likes
Sukaleek. My friend
Sukaleem. Your friend
Sukaleel. His friend
Towel. A fork
Thouap. Salt water
Tokoy. Custom, or fashion

<i>Tiang.</i> Here	<i>Wysay.</i> That is the way
<i>Takankleck.</i> What is my name	<i>Waa.</i> Holca
<i>Takanklel.</i> What is his name	<i>Wesad.</i> A light
<i>Takanklem.</i> What is your name	<i>Ynous.</i> The day after to-morrow
<i>Tealang.</i> How many	<i>Yosell.</i> Three days hence
<i>T-deal.</i> A ship	<i>Yars.</i> A sail.
<i>Ungeel.</i> Good	

NUMERALS.

<i>Tetang.</i> One	<i>Loeak.</i> Twenty
<i>Terou.</i> Two	<i>Oguthey.</i> Thirty
<i>Tethey.</i> Three	<i>Oguwang.</i> Forty
<i>Tewang.</i> Four	<i>Ogeem.</i> Fifty
<i>Te-eem.</i> Five	<i>Ogolong.</i> Sixty
<i>Malong.</i> Six	<i>Ogweeth.</i> Seventy
<i>Te-weeth.</i> Seven	<i>Ogeye.</i> Eighty
<i>Te-eye.</i> Eight	<i>Ogateem.</i> Ninety
<i>Eateem.</i> Nine	<i>Thirt.</i> One hundred.
<i>Maccoth.</i> Ten	

FINIS.





